FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 095 *16 May 1983*

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Contadora Group To Send Observers to Border A 1
Press Bulletin on Meeting A 1
Colombian Minister's Comments A 2

ARGENTINA

Province Policemen End 4-Day Strike on 13 May B 1
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 14 May]
Flooding Results in 150,000 Evacuees, Damages B 1
Ambassador Luchette Returns to Italy 14 May B 1

BOLIVIA

MIR Will Not Rejoin Government, Paz Zamora Says C 1
Demand To Head Ministry Turned Down C 1
British Subjects Taken Hostage in Magdalena C 1
El Beni Prefect Denies Kidnapping C 2
Strike Resolved, UK Subjects Free C 2

BRAZIL

Foreign Minister Discusses International Issues D 1
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 6 May]
Aeronautics Minister on Libyan Planes Issue D 4
Central Bank President Departs for U.S. D 5
PDS-PTB Coalition Called 'Historical Accord' D 5
[LATIN AMERICAN DAILY POST 13 May]
Spanish King Arrives in Sao Salvador 14 May D 5

CHILE

Interior Minister Comments on 11 May Riots E 1
Ten Wounded in Bomb Attack in Valparaiso E 2
MIR Militiaman Arrested, Weapons Seized E 2

COLOMBIA

Betancur on OAS, Regional Tensions, Guerrillas F 1
[EFE]
Betancur Criticizes U.S. Aid for Caribbean F 2
Workers Confederation Breaks With Government F 3
[DPA]

MEXICO

President Notes Central American Tension M 1
Support for UN Draft Resolution on Nicaragua M 1
Editorial Criticizes Reagan's C.A. Policy M 2
Pemex Announces Crude Oil Prices for May M 3
Former President Miguel Aleman Dead at 82 M 3

PANAMA

Paredes Announces Resignation, Trip to U.S. N 1
Expelled Arde Member Arrives From Costa Rica N 3
Amado Expresses Optimism on Contadora Efforts N 4
[MATUTINO 14 May]
Ban on U.S. Flights to Honduras Suggested N 5
[YA 13 May]

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Airspace Violation by Nicaragua Charged P 1
Government Pleased With Contadora Group Plan P 1
Delegate Named to 28-30 May Contadora Talks P 2
Government To Assist Border Observer Mission P 2
[DPA]
Postponement of OAS Council Session Requested P 3
Nicaraguan Ambassador on Support for Observers P 3
Nicaraguan Regional Expert Visits for Talks P 3

EL SALVADOR

Police Arrest 14 Guerrillas in Capital P 4
Paper Reports Repair of Four Damaged Bridges P 4
[EL MUNDO 12 May]
U.S. Conditions for Aid Termed 'Unacceptable' P 5
Duarte Discusses Conditions for U.S. Aid P 6

GUATEMALA

Stone's Appointment Draws Government Comment P 8
Foreign Minister Criticizes U.S. Aid to Belize P 9
Businessmen Report Disappointment With AID P 9
Inclusion of UN Head in Contadora Group Opposed P 10
State Council President's Trip to U.S. Noted P 10

HONDURAS

Over 1,000 Nicaraguan Refugees Cross Border P 11
Managua Government Releases Captured Fishermen P 11
Treasury Police Report Attack by Sandinists P 12
Israel Willing To Sell Weapons if Requested P 12

NICARAGUA

Joint Commission To Discuss Border Observers [Havana] P 13
Protest Note to Honduras on 12 May Attacks P 13
Daniel Ortega Opposes Peace Force on Border P 14
Plot Against Anti-Sandinist Leaders Denied P 15
Commander Reports on Rebels Killed, Captured P 15
Defense Ministry Communique on Clashes P 16

CUBA

Castro Greets African Congress Delegation Q 1
Further on U.S. Plane Hijacked to Havana Q 1
Commentary Attacks U.S. Central American Policy Q 1
CTC Denies Labor Activists Sentenced to Death Q 3
U.S. 'Propaganda' on Workers' Arrest Scored Q 3
Foreign Residents Testify on Human Rights Q 4
New Communications Facilities Inaugurated Q 5
New Studios in Santa Clara Q 5
Repeater Station in Camaguey Q 5

CONTADORA GROUP TO SEND OBSERVERS TO BORDER

PA131313 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1217 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Panama City, 13 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Contadora Group foreign ministers will send a commission of observers to the Nicaraguan-Costa Rican border, to analyze and evaluate the situation in the border area.

After a 20-hour meeting in which they discussed the Costa Rican proposal, the Venezuelan, Mexican, Colombian, and Panamanian foreign ministers said that a commission of observers and not a "peace force," "comes close to the efforts to create conditions for peace in the region."

According to an "information bulletin" on the Contadora Group meeting, the commission will have eight members, two for each member country of the Contadora Group. The commission will include any advisers that each country considers appropriate. The foreign ministers also leave it up to the commission to consult international experts. The Costa Rican Government sent special envoys to Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama to request that the Contadora form a "peace force" capable of providing effective vigilance along the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border.

Press Bulletin on Meeting

PA131437 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1135 GMT 13 May 83

[Press bulletin issued by the Contadora Group foreign ministers at end of meeting in Panama City on 13 May -- read by unidentified official]

[Text] In their meeting in Panama City on 11 and 12 May 1983, the Contadora Group foreign ministers examined the following topics:

A. The Costa Rican Government's request for the creation of a commission of observers.
B. The development of the debate at the UN Security Council session called by Nicaragua.
C. The program of activities for the next meeting of the Contadora Group foreign ministers with the five foreign ministers of the Central American countries to be held in Panama on 28 May.

The Costa Rican Government has presented a request to the OAS for the establishment of a peace force able to exercise effective vigilance along the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border. Costa Rica bases its request on the fact that it has no army and that it would have difficulties in undertaking control tasks along such an extensive and rugged border. Through special envoys to the governments of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela, the Costa Rican authorities formulated similar statements; they indicated that a commission of observers should be established for this purpose.

Acting within the framework of the principles that regulate their conduct, the Contadora Group foreign ministers recalled that the original and essential objective that led to the group's establishment consists in fulfilling a diplomatic function oriented at seeking, through political means, the solution of conflicts and having the cooperation of the involved parties in this task. From this perspective, the Contadora Group believes that its work centers on political coordination to promote dialogue and understanding and in general to orchestrate the political mechanisms that, with the cooperation of the interested states, can ensure the total achievement of its objectives.

With the variations of the case, the proposal for a commission of observers is closely related with the efforts to create conditions of peace in the region. The success of that proposal requires the cooperation of both countries. In view of the above, the Contadora Group foreign ministers have decided to send a commission of observers, made up of two representatives of each of their countries, to undertake an on-site study to identify the facts, evaluate the circumstances and present the appropriate recommendations. For the fulfillment of these functions, the commission members may be accompanied by advisers who, in the view of each country, are necessary. The commission members may also consult international experts if they believe it advisable.

The foreign ministers of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela note with deep concern the development of the Central American conflict in recent days and the repeated violation of essential principles of legal international order. These circumstances have produced various initiatives tending to seek the intervention of multilateral organizations. In the case of the recent requests presented by Central American countries to the UN Security Council and the OAS Permanent Council, it would be highly desirable if, in the deliberations underway in those forums, especially those in the Security Council, the principles whose observance should rule the behavior of states in the international sphere would be strengthened. Among others, these principles include self-determination and nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other states, respect for the integrity of the territory of states, the obligation not to permit a state' territory to be used to carry out acts of aggression against another state, the peaceful solution of disputes, and the prohibition of the use or threat of force to solve conflicts.

The Contadora Group countries again urge the Central American countries to contribute to the objective of peace and to promise therefore to use their political will to search for paths that will permit dialogue and understanding to solve their current differences. The success of the pacifying efforts depend to a great extent on this open and constructive attitude.

In order to achieve these objectives, the Contadora Group ministers have formally invited the five Central American foreign ministers to hold a working meeting on 28, 29 and 30 May. The meeting will be held within the procedures on consultation and negotiation that were agreed upon during the April meeting. An agenda has been drafted which includes the order of the topics, discussion in working groups, and lastly, the topics' discussion in the plenary session.

The foreign ministers of Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela express their thanks for the hospitality and the generous facilities that the Panamanian Government has again provided, thereby permitting them to fulfill the objective for which the Contadora Group was convoked on this occasion. [Issued] Panama, 13 May 1983

Colombian Minister's Comments

PA131946 Panama City Circuito RPC-Television in Spanish 1715 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] The Contadora Group foreign ministers will send a commission of observers to the Nicaraguan-Costa Rican border to make a study and evaluation of the situation in that area. After twenty hours of discussion in Panama, the foreign ministers of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama -- Bernardo Sepulveda, Jose Alberto Zambrano, Rodrigo Lloreda, and Juan Jose Amado III -- pointed out that a commission of observers rather than a peace force is closely related to the efforts to create conditions for peace in Central America.

The commission will have eight members; that is, two representatives from each country of the Contadora Group.

After the group agreed to send the observers to analyze the problems along the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border, Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo made the following statement on the results of the meeting to our reporter Ciro Ortega:

[Begin recording] [Lloreda] We have worked intensely for the last 3 days. Fortunately, we can now announce positive results of understanding, cohesion, and action in many aspects necessary for Central American peace.

[Ortega] Any specific decision on a peace force in Costa Rica?

[Lloreda] It was unanimously agreed to go along with the Costa Rican request to send a commission of observers who will be assigned to carry out information and control tasks along the border. All this naturally involves a number of details that would be difficult to fully explain in so few minutes. The important point is that Costa Rica accepted the offer and Nicaragua is not opposed to the adoption of the mechanism as a means to prevent difficulties and other incidents that could affect that border area. Therefore, it is a specific action backed by the four countries and permitting the development of preventive measures in a large area of Central America with the acquiescense of the two countries.

[Ortega] What topics are included on the agenda of the upcoming multilateral meeting?

[Lloreda] Many issues will be included on the agenda. We are drafting the agenda now. Naturally, we will consult the participating countries during the meeting. [end recording]

Referring to peace in Central America in the near future, the Colombian foreign minister said: [Begin Lloreda recording] We must persist. It is most important not to lose the progress obtained and to counteract the forcefulness of the conflict with a similarly forceful action on behalf of peace. [end recording]

PROVINCE POLICEMEN END 4-DAY STRIKE ON 13 MAY

PY152203 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 14 May 83 p 9

[Excerpts] San Salvador de Jujuy -- Striking policemen in this province ended their four day protest for higher wages yesterday after accepting the government's promise to consider their demands. The policemen went back to their duties shortly after Governor Jesus Ulloa fired the second in command of the provincial police force, Inspector General Zoe Teodorino Olmedo and the head of police relations, Captain Jorge Ponce, who were supporting the striking policemen.

It was reported that Interior Minister Llamil Reston has ordered the governors of the northern provinces to consider the wage demands of the police as long as civil "authority, discipline, peace and public order" were maintained. Sources said that the minister was watching the situation "closely" and was "studying several courses of action that could be taken on a national level" to resolve the conflict.

FLOODING RESULTS IN 150,000 EVACUEES, DAMAGES

PY160308 Paris AFP in Spanish 0216 GMT 16 May 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 15 May (AFP) -- Several cities in the northern part of Argentina went through a dramatic day today. These cities were totally flooded by the Parana and Paraguay Rivers as a consequence of the heavy rains that have aggravated the situation considerably.

The 200 mm of rain that fell within just a few hours aggravated the devastation and increased the effects of the flooding of the two rivers. The prospects are now gloomy for cities such as Formosa, Clorinda, Resistencia, Herradura, Puerto Bermejo, and the area along the rivers where have been undermined.

Unofficial sources have reported that along the Argentine litoral approximately 150,000 persons have been evacuated and some 12 million hectares are under water, with losses estimated at $30 million. Formosa and the Chaco are the two provinces most seriously affected by the flooding. Here rivers levels have risen considerably due to the rains that have fallen during the past 2 weeks. The rains and floods have also caused tremendous losses in Santa Fe, Misiones, Corrientes and Entre Rios provinces.

AMBASSADOR LUCHETTA RETURNS TO ITALY 14 MAY

PY142142 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2108 GMT 14 May 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 14 May (NA) -- Argentine Ambassador to Italy, Rodolfo Luchetta, who returned to Rome this afternoon, said that his return to Rome must not "be interpreted in any way." He said laconically. "I am returning to Rome after fulfilling the mission which brought me to Buenos Aires." However, in answer to a question from one of the reporters who interviewed him at Ezeiza airport as to whether he considers his return to Italy "promising," the diplomat only consented by nodding his head.

MIR WILL NOT REJOIN GOVERNMENT, PAZ ZAMORA SAYS

PY140255 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 May 83

[Excerpts] The Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] will not participate in the government until August, when President Hernan Siles Zuazo will fully reorganize his Cabinet, Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora has said.

Paz Zamora reported that the Siles Zuazo administration offered two ministerial posts to the MIR -- the Industry, Commerce and Tourism Ministry and the Social Security and Public Health Ministry -- but the MIR declined the offer.

[Begin recording] Now, this reveals the urgent need to immediately reorganize the Cabinet. Since the president of the republic, for reasons we respect, at this time only wants to replace the three resigning ministers and to wait until August to fully reorganize his Cabinet, our party decided not to rejoin a government by simply replacing some ministers since, as we see it, things will remain basically unchanged. [end recording]

Paz Zamora told the press that the Siles Zuaro administration lacks a coherent government plan, a fact which today is more noticeable than ever.

He also said that it is completely unrealistic to speak now of a possible military coup because the Armed Forces are fully identified with the democratic process which was put back on course through the people's struggle.

Demand To Head Ministry Turned Down

PY150019 Paris AFP in Spanish 1619 GMT 14 May 83

[Excerpt] La Paz, 14 May (AFP) -- Minister of Information Mario Rueda Pena said here today that the demand made by the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) to head the Ministry of Campesino Affairs prevented this party from returning to the Cabinet.

In this regard, Rueda Pena recalled that this ministry has always been in the hands of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI), whose leader is President Hernan Siles Zuazo. He said that this party is responsible for the agrarian reform through which land was expropriated from large land owners and distributed to peasants in August 1953.

BRITISH SUBJECTS TAKEN HOSTAGE IN MAGDALENA

PY131630 Paris AFP in Spanish 1546 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] La Paz, 13 May (AFP) -- It was officially reported here today that three [as received] British subjects were taken as hostages in Magdalena, Beni Department, a village 1,500 km northeast of La Paz.

British subjects Brian Vivett, Arthur Russ, Collin Brawn and Neil Howie, were taken hostage by local residents protesting the lack of government attention to their problems, according to Ricardo Cuellar, member of the local strike committee.

Cuellar said that for 45 days now the Military Air Transport enterprise (TAM) has not been flying between Trinidad (capital of Beni Department) and Magdalena, while the other airline, the Lloyd Bolivian Airline (LAB) suspended its flights over 1 year ago.

The local leader further explained that because of this situation Magdalena and other towns of Beni Department are experiencing severe shortages because they have no highways to link them to the rest of the country and this makes the prices of staples soar.

Cuellar reported that since labor and hunger strikes have failed to change the government's indifference toward this distressing situation, the residents have been forced to take the British hostages to force a solution to the problem.

Vivett, Russ and Brawn work fot the British company Cable West Coast, while young Howie is the son of one of the former managers of this firm which is currently taking its equipment out of the country after completing its contract.

It was also reported that a commission of government officials and representatives of the British Embassy in La Paz recently left for Magdalena to obtain the freedom of the hostages.

El Beni Prefect Denies Kidnapping

PY142253 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 May 83

[Excerpt] Edmundo Bruckner (Anez), prefect of El Beni Department, has denied press reports that three British subjects have been taken hostage in Magdalena. The people of Magdalena are holding a general strike to demand that the government heed their various claims.

A report by the El Beni prefect that was released in La Paz on Friday states that the people from Magdalena, San Joaquin, San Ramon, Baures, (Huacaraje) and Santa Ana ordered a general stoppage because of the total cancellation of flights to the area by the military air transport enterprises and Lloyd Aereo Boliviano.

The El Beni prefect added that the stoppage also affected a light aircraft transporting three British subjects who were on a mission to assist AASANA [Auxiliary Air Navigation Services Administration]. He said that the three British subjects were at no time arrested or kidnapped but that they were staying in Magdalena until the air transportation problem is resolved.

Strike Resolved, UK Subjects Free

PY142254 Paris AFP in Spanish 1520 GMT 14 May 83

[Excerpt] La Paz, 14 May (AFP) -- It was officially reported in La Paz today that four British subjects who could not leave the city of Magdalena in El Beni Department, 1500 km northeast of La Paz, are free to go.

The problem was quickly resolved thanks to the intervention of President Siles Zuazo, who ordered Lloyd Aereo Boliviano (LAB) and the Military Air Transport Enterprise (TAM) to resume their flights to and from Magdalena. The people from Magdalena had begun a strike due to the cancellation of LAB and TAM flights to the city.

The strike had prevented the plane transporting Brian Vivett, Arthur Ross and Colin Brown, all three from the British firm Cable West Coast, and Neil Howie, son of a former manager of the firm, from taking off from the Magdalena airport yesterday.

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

PY131840 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 May 83 p 7

[Interview with Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro by O ESTADO DE PAULO and JORNAL DA TARDE correspondents on 5 May 1983 -- place not given]

[Text] [Question] There have been comments in the press and in diplomatic circles pointing to the fact that, in the medium and long term, Brazil will no longer be able to sustain its policy in support of the Third World, taking into account our economic and financial dependence on the United States. There might be a clash, because Brazil must resort to U.S. financial aid to mitigate its own economic hardships. Is that the real situation?

[Answer] No, those comments have nothing to do with reality. They are fanciful. They are a simplistic approach. The economic and financial crisis has revealed that we were right when we said that it was necessary to promote cooperation between developing and developed countries. The position of industrialized countries and capital exporting countries is changing slightly. They are showing more understanding, although their understanding has translated only into emergency measures. But there are other measures of a more permanent nature that have already been enacted, like the increase of IMF quotas and the recognition that financial and trade matters must be dealt with at a forum, jointly, in a coordinated way. We have been striving for these objectives for years.

[Question] Is there not a contradiction in the fact that, while in New York, the Brazilian president asked the U.S. president for financial aid, in Brazil he opposed foreign intervention in Central America?

[Answer] There is no contradiction at all. It should be noted that, relations with the United States, as I have always maintained, are very good. They are based on an open dialogue and frankness between the two countries. In addition, our position against foreign intervention in Nicaragua and other Central American countries involves all forms of intervention, including those which were not visible from the beginning.

[Question] Practically all newspapers have carried reports, commentaries and analyses that once again suggest the existence of a military diplomacy in which Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, Lieutenant General Delio Jardim de Mattos and General Danilo Venturini all play the role of foreign minister. What can you tell us about that?

[Answer] As I have always said, the foreign policy adopted by the government headed by President Joao Figueiredo is very well coordinated. In our presidential system, the president bears the responsibility for our foreign policy. The foreign minister is the main adviser and the executor of that policy. What has happened is that efforts have been made to put decisionmaking at the highest level, under a single coordinating action that goes beyond the level of consultations betweeen ministers and that takes into account the government as a whole. This way, all of the actions undertaken by the ministries that are involved when a decision is made will be in keeping with such a decision. I have participated in the handling of the Surinamese, and the Libyan planes affairs because it was my duty. We also took into account other evaluations that we had already made.

As you will recall, Brazil and Suriname took some steps to promote bilateral cooperation as a result of the contacts made in 1982. In September of that year, Colonel Daysi Bourtese visited Brazil.

Netherlands aid to Suriname was halted after the 8 December events. The U.S. Government also halted, among other things, the rather limited financial and technical aid it was extending to Suriname.

True to our principles, we do not intervene in the internal affairs of other countries. We naturally take into account the international behavior of those countries. The few of you who follow foreign policy developments will recall that a few weeks after those events I answered questions from a Spanish news agency reporter about Suriname and the risks involved. I said that Brazil was not interfering, that it was not passing judgment on the internal affairs of other countries and that it was right to expect that the Surinamese process would pose no problems or risks to us. But I added: In theory, Brazil would not tolerate a superpower, a medium size power or any country's putting the national security in jeopardy. This statement was publicized by our neighbors.

We recalled our ambassador to Suriname: He had been there for almost 7 years. He did a good job during the above events. I assigned Minister Lampreia to Suriname. The election of Lampreia, who was adviser to the Brazilian Embassy in Washington, was not a thoughtless choice. He had been in charge of the entire economic area in Washington. We were studying a series of possible cooperation channels with Suriname. Possibilities for bilateral cooperation resulted from joint committee meetings and from the exchange of visitors. At a certain time, we considered that we really had to put into practice those forms of cooperation, as well as others that we might implement if Surname agreed to them. I was naturally very satisfied. I could not have felt any better, given the background of the situation.

Why has Venturini and not the foreign minister undertaken that mission? Everybody knows that he has close links with the president. He followed up the whole process and he is familiar with all the information that was submitted to the General Secretariat of the Security Council. We frequently talk about that issue in keeping with internal coordination requirements. It would be senseless to let the Foreign Ministry and the Security Council Secretariat work in isolation, without permanent coordination. The two departments have cooperated quite well in the last 4 years. There are no difficulties. There is nothing to worry about, it would be favorable and not the opposite.

Therefore, Venturini traveled both as ambassador and presidential envoy. Before his trip, we talked a lot about what he would do and why. I was very satisfied that everything turned out as planned. Afterwards, I was surprised at the press reports.

[Question] Official U.S. sectors maintain that either Itamaraty's prestige has declined or the Brazilian Foreign Ministry is undergoing a process very similar to what happened to the State Department right after World War II and in the early 1950's, when the department had to let the military, economic area officials and even the Department of Agriculture participate in foreign policy decisionmaking. The above U.S. sectors claim that the self-confidence that some ministers have shown abroad hints that, from now on, the same thing will happen to Itamaraty. What is your opinion on the issue?

[Answer] There are two things to be taken into account: One of them is the historical evolution of nations. The historical evolution will be easier to understand if considered from the viewpoint of the changes that have taken place throughout the centuries. In order to make this explanation easier, we can say that in the 19th century, the state was in charge of maintaining order and collecting tariffs. Some naive countries, like Brazil, did that to increase their revenues, while others -- more intelligent, like the United States -- did that to protect their industries. We began doing that only after a few generations. It was the theory of the guardian state. But the state has never played that role comprehensively. There has been barely a laissez faire, a laissez passer attitude. As generations passed, the state underwent an evolution.

It is clear that the Foreign Ministry can neither be held responsible nor conclude agreements, for example, on financial matters, agricultural cooperation or multilateral cooperation for the development of new energy sources or prospecting for minerals. Obviously, it cannot conclude a legal or cultural cooperation agreement without coordination with the ministers that deal with such matters.

That Itamaraty has to let other sectors participate in foreign policy decisionmaking is something very relative. If we have local agencies that are capable of carrying out negotiations within the scope of well-known objectives, it is normal that we let them do so. Many times in the past, Itamaraty managed to handle various types of issues, although not all of them always fell within its jurisdiction. But the participation of other sectors is not necessarily a rule but the result of natural evolution.

What really matters from the Foreign Ministry viewpoint is that the ministry must have, as I said, an overall view of the country's foreign policy and that it must fit into a political framework in which it -- the Foreign Ministry -- is the most sensitive organ. There is no reason why Itamaraty should negotiate the obtaining of loans with bankers, above all because there are highly qualified personnel in the economic area. If we have to meet with the IMF, either Central Bank President Carlos Langoni, Finance Minister Ernane Galveas or Planning Minister Delfim Netto will deal with the matter.

In the United States, the above problem was felt much more intensively because, first, the structure of the State Department itself was not based, like Itamaraty, on career development. This is something relatively new in the United States. It is not necessary to recall that the United States and Brazil are different countries.

Another reason is that, obviously, the United States became a powerful country too quickly. Having adhered to a neutral policy until shortly before the end of World War II, at the end of it the United States faced world level responsibilities and had to solve problems everywhere by means of gigantic programs. We are not in that situation and we are not likely to have to face such responsibilities in the near future.

[Question] In a speech he delivered in Mexico, President Joao Figueiredo stated clearly that Brazil is not in favor of foreign assistance to any side in the Central American conflict. If there was conclusive evidence that a power is providing aid to a faction that is fighting against the Nicaraguan Government, would the Brazilian Government provide aid to the Nicaraguan Government, even in an indirect way?

[Answer] No, we have rejected all kinds of intervention in the above conflict. In Mexico, we clearly extended our political support, which was already implicit because we had previously praised the efforts that Mexico, Colombia and Venezuela had made to put an end to hostilities. Panama has now joined that group. The spirit of the negotiations that they are carrying out to arrange a peaceful settlement is based on noninterference, disarmament, withdrawal of military advisers -- including the 500 Cubans who are in Nicaragua -- a non-aggression pact, a border control agreement and so forth. I do not know whether they will succeed, but they are already trying and we have nothing to add to what has already been said. We will wish them success in the hope that the danger may be eliminated.

[Question] A criticism that Brasilia diplomatic circles have made is that the Brazilian foreign policy toward the Third World has not meant dollars for Brazil.

[Answer] That is another simplistic and unidirectional type of criticism. The relations that a country like Brazil maintains with foreign countries cannot cover only funding or the conquest of markets. These are perfectly legitimate goals, but they are just one side of the question. There are many other aspects, like the adoption of a responsible foreign policy whose effects do not wane at the end of the year but reach into the future, even beyond the present government. And there are security, political and human aspects too. Brazil is not just a modern Phoenicia.

[Question] But 40 percent of our exports go to developing countries and a significant portion of that figure remains unpaid.

[Answer] The figure was practically 42 percent in 1981. This percentage dropped later, because they are more vulnerable. But even after a substantial reduction, the percentage of our exports going to those countries is still quite large.

And it is not true that the Third World does not pay. It would be enough to glance at statistical date to confirm this statement. If we compare the total debt the Third World owes to us with the amount they have already paid we conclude that the above 42 percent is actually larger today [as published].

These countries are experiencing difficulties as a result of current circumstances. This means that they will overcome those problems. From a merely commercial viewpoint, it is important to maintain sales even at a minimum level during a time of crisis. Any businessman knows that markets should not be abandoned completely.

AERONAUTICS MINISTER ON LIBYAN PLANES ISSUE

PY132316 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Rio de Janeiro -- Aeronautics Minister Delio Jardim de Mattos has stated that Itamaraty is trying to solve the case of the Libyan planes in Manaus and Recife through diplomatic channels and that the issue is no longer under the Aeronautics Ministry.

Jardim de Mattos said the Brazilian Government wants the materiel found in the planes to be promptly shipped out of the country. He believes the issue will not affect the sale of Brazilian arms to Libya.

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT DEPARTS FOR U.S.

PY131225 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 13 May 83

[Excerpt] Central Bank President Carlos Langoni has traveled to the United States with the purpose of justifying the poor performance of the Brazilian economy in the first quarter of 1983. Langoni will be in Washington on Monday to explain what the Brazilian Government is doing to ensure compliance with the targets imposed by the IMF. Langoni will also meet with representatives of international banks in New York.

PDS-PTB COALITION CALLED 'HISTORIC ACCORD'

PY140334 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 13 May 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Historic Accord"]

[Text] The government's PDS party and Ivete Varga's PTB came to an historic agreement Wednesday, joining parliamentary forces in a coalition that has great significance for the political future of this nation. "Historical" is not hyperbole. It was the first time in 20 years that the government has accepted an alliance with an opposition party. This political agreement gives the PDS-PTB coalition an absolute majority in the House of Deputies, with the 235 PDS deputies plus 13 PTB deputies making a total of 248. In the Senate, where the PDS already has a majority, the PTB's one additional vote won't make any real difference.

The significance of this alliance is that the government party negotiated in good faith a number of social issues that previously were not part of its program. The PTB is basically a liberal party with support in working class areas and the agreement made the PDS finally begin to reflect some of the concerns of the working classes.

The negotiations for the alliance centered on proposed legislation altering existing labor legislation, especially as regards to strikes, unions and job security. The PTB also has its own ideas about the wage law currently up before Congress which the PDS must push as it came from President Figueiredo's office.

The alliance proves that Brazil's new democracy is functioning. Dialogue is possible and changes will come about as the parties discuss common goals with each other. Positions are much more flexible than in the past and the role of Congress has increased dramatically.

Of course there is a healthy dose of political expediency in the PDS-PTB coalition. But that is exactly what parliamentary democracy is all about. Brazil's system is a bit hybrid, since the executive branch has much power still. Yet "abertura" has shown itself to be viable and we should welcome agreements such as that worked out between the PDS and the PTB as major marks in the development of democracy of the nation.

SPANISH KING ARRIVES IN SAO SALVADOR 14 MAY

PY142112 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2059 GMT 14 May 83

[Text] Sao Salvador (BAHIA), 14 May (TELAM) -- The King of Spain, Juan Carlos de Borbon, and his wife, Queen Sofia, arrived today at the international airport of this city in northeastern Brazil for an official visit to the country.

INTERIOR MINISTER COMMENTS ON 11 MAY RIOTS

PY131420 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 May 83

[Graciela Contreras' report from Government House]

[Text] The official figure on the number of people arrested yesterday totals 350. Interior Minister Enrique Montero told journalists at Government House that the government is studying measures to implemented in connection with incidents and provocations aimed at disrupting public order.

Along with his evaluation of yesterday's incidents, the minister also read a 2 and 1/4-page public declaration which outlined the government's position on the call for a national stoppage made by the Copper Workers Confederation, which is contained in the so-called (Punta de Tranca) Agreement.

In part, the declaration states that the population has observed the total failure of the instigation of a stoppage and of the protest demonstration, taking into account that yesterday's activities throughout the country were carried out with absolute normalcy, because there was a massive and exemplary attendance of workers and employees at their jobs.

The interior minister stated that in no way can the authorities be accused of threatening the workers and that the patriotic behavior of the authorities must be highlighted, because their behavior, without giving them any major incentive, is a repudiation of those who, without success, have tried to politicize the country's labor sector. Minister Montero said:

[Begin Montero recording] The failure of the instigators was so evident that in an irresponsible and concerted action that was carried out after 2000 [2400 GMT] yesterday, they, with the help of common criminals and extremists, provoked irrational violence by attacking the forces of law and order without taking into consideration the law, security and the nation's patrimony.

During the [words indistinct] the incidents took place in [name indistinct], (La Victoria), (La Casquina), [name indistinct] and [name indistinct] Avenue, where these individuals, who were obviously recruited from the underworld, indiscriminately and savagely used handguns and automatic weapons against Carabineros personnel.

These clearly subversive incidents, which were staged in specific places and were obviously planned in advance, did not affect the northern and western sectors of Santiago. [end recording]

The interior minister added that the day consisted of two important and different stages. The first stage was marked by the development of the country's activities and the other stage consisted of what occured after 2000.

Further on in his public declaration, the interior minister stated that the government has the constitutional duty to see that the law is strictly complied with and to implement it with full force against those who commit crimes aimed at disrupting the country's peace and tranquility. He added that responsible people will face the consequences of their criminal behavior.

Montero added: [begin Montero recording] [words indistinct] all the union leaders who showed their lack of morality by attempting to abandon those people whom they themselves incited to participate in violent and subversive actions, and who acted under foreign directives and with foreign financing, will be tried by the courts and face the legitimate charges leveled against them by the appropriate officials. [end recording]

The interior minister concluded by stating that, on noting the total failure of the incidents instigated by some union leaders, the supreme government acknowledges once again the patriotic behavior and moderation of the Chilean people, who wish to live and work in peace and in order.

TEN WOUNDED IN BOMB ATTACK IN VALPARAISO

PY140214 Paris AFP in Spanish 0131 GMT 14 May 83

[Text] Valparaiso, 13 May (AFP) -- Ten persons were wounded today when a bomb went off outside the Investigative Civil Police Prefecture of this port, located 140 km northwest of Santiago, it was reported here today.

The semiofficial news agency ORBE reported that two persons were seriously injured and that one of them -- a police officer -- was urgently operated on to remove shrapnel from his neck.

Early reports indicate that the bomb was made with ammonia gelatin and covered with iron and tar, all of which made it a highly destructive bomb.

Radio Portales reported that the bomb was planted outside a crowded sector of the Valparaiso market and that the concussion, destroyed a police car and shattered window-panes in an area of 100 meters.

The bomb was planted in a vacant lot of the market at a moment when a work meeting of officers was being held in the investigative Civil Police building, located across the street.

MIR MILITIAMAN ARRESTED, WEAPONS SEIZED

PY131500 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 May 83

[Excerpt] An extremist arrested by security forces was found to have a large number of weapons. (Elpidio Alfonso Isperes de Cordoba), 32, has been put at the disposal of the military prosecutor of Santiago.

It was learned that the subversive was the leader of the militia organization of the outlawed Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR. Security forces found a large number of weapons and forged documents in his home. The weapons seized include a Czechoslovak (?C) brand submachinegun for 9 mm ammunition; two 30-bullet clips; a 22-calibre (Italo) revolver; a 6-caliber, 135 mm [as heard] Browning pistol and aluminum powder and potasium nitrate to manufacture home-make explosive devices.

The subversive's home, which is located at 6718 Santa Maria Avenue, in La Cisterna, was later searched. A large amount of Marxist literature, manuals, instruction booklets, explosive devices, blueprints and documents to carry out all kinds of subversive attacks, were seized during the operation.

BETANCUR ON OAS, REGIONAL TENSIONS, GUERRILLAS

PA132208 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1950 GMT 12 May 83

[By Jesus Fonseca Escartin]

[Text] Bogota, 12 May (EFE) -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur said today that the OAS should become a "Latin American United Nations," and that to this end it is indispensable to give it greater representativity and to make room in it for all tendencies.

During an exclusive interview with EFE, Betancur contended that the "OAS is not exactly experiencing one of its best moments" and noted that developments concerning the Malvinas and current events are proof that this body, which was created for specific purposes, requires a very serious restructuring.

The Colombian president noted that he had previously outlined to various regional political leaders in private the idea of turning the OAS into a Latin American United Nations.

"In any event, something can be done with the past negative and positive experiences," he said.

Betancur added that the arms race is one of the great tragedies of our times, which is having mortal effects in the backward and developing countries. The president stressed that the major arms traffickers, "shamelessly supported by their own governments in many cases, instigate conflicts in order to sell their deadly wares."

Betancur said at this office at Narino House (the presidential palace) that "the struggle against subversion is being confused with the struggle against underdevelopment."

Analyzing Latin America's relations with the United States, he said that "they must be based on a friendly firmness in order for them to respond to concrete geopolitical realities." "We are no longer being called a 'backyard' but a 'garden' in some cases. Given the nuances in diplomatic language, this is significant. Therefore, an optimist might say that we are beginning to tread the right path. However, there is still much to do and try," Betancur noted.

Regarding one of Colombia's biggest problems -- the guerrillas -- Betancur referred to the amnesty that was recently granted to the guerrillas, which involved the implementation of "very clear ideas to fight with deeds the so-called subversion of underdevelopment."

"This is the key to our policy because it springs from the principle that we are not legislating exclusively for the guerrillas since the government is strong within itself but, above all, because of the huge popular support it enjoys."

"Our generosity will not keep the authorities from fulfilling their constitutional duty of guaranteeing the life, honor and property of the citizens," Betancur asserted.

Regarding his style of government, Betancur stressed the need for social responsibility "with a view toward protecting those who benefit least from our democratic system and could seek other formulas for survival, even if those formulas are worse than what they are attempting to escape."

Questioned about Central America and the decision of the Contadora Group to seek peace for the region, Betancur admitted no leadership on the subject. "The only leader is peace, or stability. This is not an attempt to seek starring roles, but to do everything possible to avoid a worsening of the tragedy, which is already huge."

"We have placed all the will power, good sense and objectivity we can muster at the service of peace on the Central American isthmus," he said.

Starting from what he described as "an elementary historical perspective, Betancur feels that the behavior of Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, and Panama is really just advocating their own cause, "because peace in Central America means our own peace." [quotation marks as received]

Latin America's economic crisis and foreign debt are also a source of concern for Betancur, who feels that it is indispensable to seek a minimum level of liquidity to permit a stable and dynamic growth.

That is why he has proposed the creation of a $35-billion emergency fund within the IMF to support the countries facing the greatest difficulties.

He also proposed that the IDB and the Contadora countries (Venezuela, Panama, Mexico and Colombia) promote a review of the situation at the IDB in order to create a nucleus of development for one of the regions of the hemisphere that has "the greatest human and physical potential but at the same time great financial limitations."

According to Betancur, the IDB has played an important role in the past, but for various political and short-term reasons its efforts have bogged down, and he has told this to IDB President Antonio Ortiz Mena.

Questioned by EFE about the forthcoming arrival of Prince Felipe, heir to the Spanish crown, and of Spanish President Felipe Gonzalez, Betancur talked about the decisive role King Juan Carlos has played in Spain's democratization and his friendship with the head of the Spanish Government.

"Everything concerning that great country interests me, since I once had the honor of being Colombia's ambassador there. Our relations are very fruitful and at this moment we are advancing in a process of reactivation."

Betancur explained that this is being made possible thanks to factors such as the allotment that the Spanish Government has made of an important credit for Colombia, which could be turned into basic projects for its economy.

Before ending the interview, Betancur referred to the recent meeting of Ibero-American intellectuals and politicians in Madrid, emphasizing as very valuable and positive the common commitment of all of them to unite their efforts to struggle for democracy and freedom. He said that "Spain can secure its presence in Ibero-America more every day, as long as it is capable of tightening the bonds of economic and cultural solidarity, which will bring great benefits for both sides."

BETANCUR CRITICIZES U.S. AID FOR CARIBBEAN

PA132032 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Bogota -- Colombia has said that the $350 million aid for Central America that President Ronald Reagan has asked the U.S. Congress to approve is not sufficient.

In a speech before the Caribbean Development Bank governors meeting in Cartagena, President Betancur said that this is a very small amount, considering these countries' solvency requirements. However, he pointed out, the U.S. President is aware of the strategic importance of the Central American region, and this can be seen in his interest in convincing the U.S. Congress of the importance of the Caribbean Basin Initiative, not only because the area has a population of 30 million people or because its commerce represents millions of dollars, but also because it is a crossroads, a (?vital) point in the struggle for supremacy.

The Colombian president favored the decision of those who aspire to make the Caribbean a region of peace, not only in terms of the absence of armed conflicts, but also in terms of the absence of social conflicts among the groups of our societies.

President Betancur offered Colombia's help in strengthening the Caribbean Development Bank and in helping create incentives for local businessmen so that they in turn will promote investment plans in the basin. He also offered Colombia's help for the signing of cooperation agreements in the fields of tourism, fishing, energy, education, science, and technology; technical and professional training at the Sena [National Apprenticeship Service] and universities; support for UNCTAD'S common fund of basic products; and seminars for the exchange of experiences between Andean Group countries and the Caribbean economic community.

WORKERS CONFEDERATION BREAKS WITH GOVERNMENT

PA132005 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1619 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Bogota, 13 May (DPA) -- Today the Confederation of Colombian Workers, CTC, announced a virtual break with the government of President Belisario Betancur "in order to reject the apathy and indifference with which the president treats the leadership of the working class."

The break announced in a meeting of more than 100 CTC labor leaders was confirmed today by CTC President Manuel Felipe Hurtado who indicated that "we are not breaking with the government. The government is the one that has broken relations with us by not meeting with us to analyze the country's current socioeconomic situation."

The break will be implemented through actions that include total support for the Columbian Port Federation [Federacion Colombiana de Puertos -- Fedepuertos] so that it will call an indefinite strike in the seaports of Cartagena, Barranquilla, Santa Marta, and Buenaventura beginning on 26 May; agitation in the unions affiliated to the [words indistinct].

PRESIDENT NOTES CENTRAL AMERICAN TENSION

PA150124 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0015 GMT 14 May 83

[Text] Tapachula (Mexico), 13 May (EFE) -- Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid said here today that everything that happens in Central America affects the Mexicans "directly." He noted that Mexico is eager to help to ensure that Central American problems are solved in peace, without violence, bloodshed or struggles among brothers.

The Mexican president spoke at a large rally in the main square of this city in the state of Chiapas, which borders Guatemala.

De la Madrid said that the Central Americans and the Mexicans are brothers "in history and in blood, because we are their friends. We coexist with them and we are monitoring events in Central America closely."

The president said that Chiapas is a border state in an area of vital interest to the Mexicans, next "to Central America, a group of sister nations that is undergoing tension and violence at the moment."

The president also said that the Mexican people are prepared to continue to defend the Central American people's right to self-determination, as well as the principle of nonintervention. He said that Mexico is prepared "to search for a peaceful solution to controversies and to promote, with our example, new international economic and social development programs" for the area.

De la Madrid noted that underdevelopment and injustice are the reasons for the deep problems experienced by "our brothers" (the Central Americans). "We must help, from Guatemala southward so that these people may live in peace. Our love, respect and esteem goes out to them from Tapachula."

According to De la Madrid, one of the ways that the Mexicans can better implement Mexico's foreign policy principles "is to show, with our daily example, how our people and government, united in liberty and justice and rejecting violence as a form of struggle, can solve our own problems."

After pointing out that violence can incite third parties to take advantage of internal conflicts and to weaken a nation De la Madrid stated: "In Mexico, violence is reactionary, because it favors foreign interests."

SUPPORT FOR UN DRAFT RESOLUTION ON NICARAGUA

PA140805 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2317 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] United Nations, 13 May (EFE) -- Mexico today announced its support for the draft resolution on Nicaragua that the nonpermanent members of the UN Security Council will submit to the Council. The announcement was made today at the UN Security Council by Porfirio Munoz Ledo, Mexico's permanent delegate to the United Nations, who referred to his government's serious concern over the Central American situation.

Ambassador Munoz Ledo said that the draft resolution gives the countries that form the Contadora Group -- Mexico, Venezuela, Panama, and Colombia -- additional support to continue with their efforts.

He also said that the draft resolution requests the UN Secretary General's cooperation in coordination with the Contadora Group, for a solution to the problems that are affecting peace in Central America.

After a brief account of Mexico's initiative and the Contadora Group's efforts on behalf of peace for Central America, and also of the support they have obtained, Munoz Ledo added that "while many are genuinely working for peace, it appears that some are trying to obtain peace through war," considering that the climate of threats and aggressions has worsened.

Paraphrasing Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid, Munoz Ledo said that his country "will continue struggling so that our Central American brothers can find in the principle of self-determination of peoples the best guarantee to their right to live in peace and to find their own way to democracy and development."

He also referred to the meeting of the Contadora Group that ended yesterday in Panama, explaining the decision to send to the border zone between Nicaragua and Costa Rica an observer commission, as requested by Costa Rica, formed of representatives of each of the countries that form the Contadora Group.

This commission will be in charge of corroborating facts, analyzing situations and making recommendations regarding the situation on that border.

Munoz Ledo said that the UN Security Council "has the responsibility to give immediate and practical answers to the problem," and the duty "to decidedly contribute to a negotiated solution to the present conflict" in Central America.

Meanwhile, Nicaragua reiterated its willingness to hold separate bilateral negotiations with Honduras and the United States.

After the participation of the representatives of the Seychelles, Grenada and Zimbabwe, the UN Security Council adjourned its meeting until 1530 next Monday.

EDITORIAL CRITICIZES REAGAN'S C.A. POLICY

PA140755 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 7 May 83 pp 7-A, 8-A

[Editorial by Fernando Rello: "Sandino and Reagan, the People's Rage"]

[Excerpts] The incidents in Central America are getting worse. The United States is waging an undeclared war against Nicaragua by giving military support to Somozist groups that have already begun to invade the country. The Mexican Government is morally and politically involved in the problem to such an extent that if the conflict becomes more serious, it would have to adopt measures that might define our country's political future and affect the lives of all Mexicans. For this reason, our ideas and positions in this regard must be clear.

Reagan is using two cards to militarily crush the Salvadoran insurgents and to neutralize the advance of the victorious Sandinist revolution: He is trying to prove that the Central American problem is part of the East-West conflict, and that his nation's security is threatened because the flames of the Central American revolution are affecting his backyard. In addition, he is trying to give the impression that the region's revolutionary movements do not represent the people's will, and that they are isolated bands of intransigent Marxists that can be destroyed militarily.

Reagan has made an all-out effort to play down the people's support for the Nicaraguan revolution and has even resorted to lies and distortions. He is trying to make the Sandinists appear as puppets of Moscow and Havana. However, history offers evidence that the Sandinist revolution involves a vast social movement whose deep roots are the same as those of other Latin America liberation struggles, including the Mexican revolution. In other words, these roots are the struggle of nationalism against imperialist aggression, and the fight for self-determination and social reforms in order to eliminate privileges.

Reagan's speech to Congress shows the grotesque extremes he has reached in his zeal to discredit and isolate the Sandinist revolution. He said that he does not hold himself responsible for the the people's rage against their leaders, precisely those who led them to liberation. We would have to remind Reagan of Sandino's exact words: "Any foreign intervention in our affairs can only bring about the loss of peace and the people's rage."

PEMEX ANNOUNCES CRUDE OIL PRICES FOR MAY

FL130107 Bridgetown CANA in English 0031 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Mexico City, May 12, CANA-REUTER -- The Mexican state oil company Pemex said today that for the fourth straight month its export prices for May would remain unchanged at 29 dollars a barrel for light Isthmus crude and 23 dollars a barrel for heavier Mayan crude.

A spokesman said exports so far this year have averaged about 1.4 barrels daily, slightly less than the 1.5 barrel export platform of Pemex.

FORMER PRESIDENT MIGUEL ALEMAN DEAD AT 82

PA141425 Paris AFP in Spanish 1319 GMT 14 May 83

[Text] Mexico City, 14 May (AFP) -- Former Mexican President Miguel Aleman died here today at the age of 82.

PAREDES ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION, TRIP TO U.S.

PA141900 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1636 GMT 14 May 83

[Speech by General Ruben Dario Paredes on the occasion of the dedication of a bridge in Chiriqui Province on 14 May 1983 -- live]

[Text] Dear people: Before I express some feelings and ideas I have regarding our country, I wish to sincerely thank you for the many nice gestures of friendship shown since I arrived here at the bridge. We have to remember that when the beautiful old bridge fell, the republic's capital and urban centers began to expericence normal shortages of food and staples since this province, the proud porvince of Chiriqui, produces 60 percent of the food that Panama consumes. Had it not been for the eagerness of the people of Chiriqui and the Panamanian people in general -- some more than others but all with the same willingness and enthusiasm to help -- who came to give their help... [changes thought] It was here that we saw that great air bridge formed by the National Guard; our U.S. friends; AID; the Public Works Ministry; the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification; the Agricultural Development Ministry; private companies such as the Aoki Construction Co Ltd, Constructora Urbana, S.A., Petroterminal; in fact, everyone came. We brought a ferry from Costa Rica and stationed it in Pedregal. It was used to transport the vehicles carrying the food, especially those products from the highlands. We had to bring boats, not only National Guard boats but boats offered by friends, real Panamanians who also gave their help.

This misfortune that caused us hardships, problems and concern because of the isolation in which the province was left, also contributed to uniting us, to consoldiating the Panamanian people. That is why when someone said, before we cut the ribbon, that this is the bridge of unity I reacted, and in my heart I said: This is true. The bridge brought about a great unity that surrounded that difficult moment. This bridge also showed us that in the face of trouble, the Panamanian people grow and that is what happened on that day.

Today we dedicate this bridge, one of the most modern in the country, not to say the best in the country. We congratulate the company that built the bridge in record time, especially Engineer (Barrios). [applause] At this time, I would also like to mention other things as important as the dedication of the bridge.

We have just had a referendum. In that referendum we voted on the constitutional reforms. The referendum was an example of something that I pointed out on another occasion: national unity. Speaking in general, no one refused to vote on that day. Parties in favor of the government, as well as opposition parties, said, "present" as did all the Panamanians who are not members of any particular party and who went to vote. The referendum finished evaluating, sealing, and improving our constitution. We have taken a positive step toward true and real democracy. Today I dare advance and ask my fellow countrymen, all the people of Panama, to accept new compelling challenges. I am going to speak on two subjects that I have been told I should not mention because they could damage me politically, but I think and act by my conscience and I believe that if a man is called to fill a position of leadership, he should also take risks when he has to present what he believes is best for his people, come what may.

It is necessary for unemployment to end. It is important for the men, and women of this country to find work to feed their children [applause], work to educate their children, to give them a suitable roof over their heads, to dress them and keep them healthy. Whenever I walk around the republic I see more people unemployed. Unemployment is increasing; it is increasing dangerously. We cannot wait for the next elections to be over or for them to come before we state this truth. The time has come and it is necessary for the labor code to be reviewed and amended. [applause] The time has come, as of right now, to review and amend the housing law. [applause] But this must not be a divestment of the social achievements of the country's workers. Neither can it be a trampling or a threat to the employers and investors in this country, local as well as foreign, or to the banks.

The three big sectors -- government, private business and the workers -- should sit at a table as Panamanians. After all, in this country there are no great things that divide them. On the contrary, there are more things that unite us. Those who promote hate are very few; I'd say that they could all fit in a Volkswagen and we would still have an empty seat. [laughter and applause] Then why should we be afraid to sit down and review the labor code and the housing law? Let the worker approach the employer in those places where there is still a gap. Let the ideas and opinions draw closer. Let there be mutual respect between the two sectors. Let slow work and low production be punished, [applause] but also let efficiency and high production be rewarded.

First, we have to speak to the workers. In approximately 10 days we will approach the workers organizations and unions, so don't get scared, but understand that we can lose everything -- this peace -- if we don't take this step now. Then the business sector, that has prestige in this country, will have the last word. Let it put up its capital and fulfill its social responsibility. [applause]

I would also like to say today that soon we will accept an invitation made on repeated occasions by the U.S. Government, a friendly invitation made directly by Pentagon officials, General Meyer and General Vessey; we will go to Washington. But this is not another holiday and the people must know what are going to do in Washington, besides accept a very nice invitation. We have to discuss the future of Fort Gulick. We have to see how we can save and reorganize the railroad that is not operating well, though not because of Panamanian negligence. I want you all to know that in the past when the railroad was under U.S. jurisdiction, it was subsidized by the traffic of ships, the ships that transit the canal. Today the railroads no longer enjoys this subsidy and the operation is not profitable.

We also have to talk to them about the wage scale that is not equal. [applause] There are 3,000 Panamanian employees in the Canal Zone who are earning the same wages for the same work as are other Panamanians and U.S. citizens. You take an individual with his hammer pounding a nail just as his companion is, yet sometimes he earns half the other man's salary. This has to be corrected.

We shall return, but before leaving for Washington, I am going to present to the president of the republic a document respectfully and irrevocably resigning from my post as commander of the National Guard, after 26 years of service. [applause] The resignation letter has an open date, but it will become effective, with the pardon of the President, during the first 15 days of August, so those who are chasing me still have 90 days. [laughter and applause] A group has been chasing me for the past 18 months, the group driving around in the Volkswagen. [laughter and applause]

We want, and we recommend to the president, that without affecting the Social Security budget, that the workers deserve their second installment of the thirteen month. [shouts and applause] I am sure that the president, who is a great president -- better than you can imagine, a great man; let's have applause for President de la Espriella [applause] -- will find the way for this country's workers and laborers to feel satisfied with the treatment that he will give them.

In the same manner, the men and woemn who are involved in the urban renewal program, will not have their rents increased at this time. The current rents must remain as they are today until we have better incomes for these people. [applause] It would be bad if they were not paying, but they are. Then why raise their rents at this time? It is not right. This is another task for the president, and I am sure he will be successful in solving the problem.

In these next 90 days, and taking advantage of the government minister's presence here, we hope that the Guaymi Indian reservation will become a reality.

For next year, we are planning a substantial increase in the ranks of the National Guard but this time, not for police purposes, but for a highly specialized corps that will protect, in a scientific and orderly manner, the natural resources, so that we will not continue with blackouts due to lack of water, so that we don't have to experience again what happened recently in San Miguelito -- because there was no water, the people are out on the streets -- and every time we have two ships crossing the canal from one ocean to the other they use 1 million gallons of water and 1 million gallons of water is what Panama City consumes. Therefore, we need to conserve and produce water and prevent these droughts that are affecting us today. We are going to create this forest ranger crops, friends of nature and farmers, so that we will not continue destroying our habitat, where future generations of Panamanians also have to be born.

In conclusion I say: All men 30 years old or less, all women 30 years old or less, all these beautiful young people that are reaching the age of 18, accept your homeland and govern it. This cannot be achieved by just wishing; cannot be achieved by decree; you have to win this in an election, in the upcoming elections.

The question -- a question which is asked everyday, a question that is in your minds today -- is: What is Gen Paredes going to do after the first 15 days of August when he accepts his obligatory retirement, since the National Guard does not belong to anyone and belongs to the homeland and of the people. [applause]

Well, Gen Paredes will be at home. He will accept a nomination only if he is to contribute to maintaining peace and national unity. [applause] Otherwise, if his candidacy -- which is so much talked about and sensed, I know -- turns out to be a reason for division among Panamanians, you will not find me."

Panamanians, look to the homeland with hope. Greetings to all, thank you for such a display of love and greeting also to my favorite girl. [applause] It had been days since I last saw her. Thank you. [applause]

EXPELLED ARDE MEMBER ARRIVES FROM COSTA RICA

PA150055 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 May 83

[Text] Cesar Aviles, an engineer, has arrived here from San Jose, Costa Rica. He was expelled from that country by its Security Council. Aviles is a member of the directorate of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, an organization that is affiliated with the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, Arde.

Asked why the Costa Rican Security Council requested that he leave the country, Aviles said:

[Begin Aviles recording] The alleged motive was that my presence in Costa Rica compromised the government's neutrality toward Nicaragua's internal problem. Actually, my public activities in Costa Rica were limited to the turnover of a prisoner of war to the International Red Cross, because we have no facilities in the mountains for keeping prisoners. We are Christians. We respect human rights and proof of this is that the prisoner that we turned over was Second Lieutenant Danilo Lugo, of Nicaragua's State Security's Prevention Section. According to the papers that we confiscated from him, his main function was to clear the area of people suspected of being the counterrevolutionaries' friends. Some of the people on the lists that we found on his person had little crosses beside their names. They were people who had already been eliminated by Nicaragua's State Security on suspicion of being collaborators with the counterrevolution.

The most important thing about these actions is that they are only known internationally. They are known in Costa Rica and throughout Central America, but none of this is known inside Nicaragua. We have confirmed that actions carried out in Rivas Department, which is 50 km from the southern border, deep inside the country, are not even known to the people who reside there. In Rivas we have liberated political and common criminals. We have attacked (Cibalsa) directly. In the Atlantic area, we have reached Punta Gorda. We recently had a clash in which the Sandinist Army systained 70 casualties and we had 12.

None of these clashes has been reported in Nicaragua's capital or in the departments. [end recording]

AMADO EXPRESSES OPTIMISM ON CONTADORA EFFORTS

PA160017 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 14 May 83 pp 1, 8-A

[By Roberto R. Rodriguez]

[Excerpts] After a formal meeting in Panama of more than 18 hours, the foreign ministers of the so-called "Contadora Group" resolved to send a commission of observers, consisting of two representatives from each of their countries, to Costa Rica. The decision was announced at 0600 yesterday after a 12-hour secret working meeting.

Commenting on the Contadora Group's resolution, Panamanian Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado stressed that it was "unanimous" and denied that there had been any impasses in the talks.

Amado stressed that the decision to have observers "make an on-the-spot study in order to to corroborate the facts, weigh the circumstances and present whatever, recommendations they deem pertinent," as the document states, was received with interest by Costa Rica and accepted by Nicaragua.

The Panamanian foreign minister recalled that the Contadora Group wants to create the proper atmosphere for the parties to feel free of "pressure, tension and apprehension," so that they can discuss their problems.

"With this concept of peaceful coexistence, we are creating the proper climate of understanding and tolerance," Amado stated.

Responding to MATUTINO, the foreign minister said that the attitude of the "Contadora Group is realistic and based on common sense," but he explained that success depends upon the support of the international community and on the will of the countries involved in the conflicts.

The Panamanian foreign minister supports the resolution of subregional conflicts within the area, but noted that the decisions of all nations are sovereign and must be respected.

After voicing optimism about the Contadora Group's efforts to find viable formulas for securing peace in the area, Amado said that progress had been made, because "Contadora has won understanding, friendship and tolerance."

BAN ON U.S. FLIGHTS TO HONDURAS SUGGESTED

PA152030 Panama City YA in Spanish 13 May 83 p 4

[From "The Tip" column]

[Text] The Ban

Yankee planes should be prohibited from traveling to Honduras just as Libyan planes are banned from traveling to Nicaragua through Central America. The fight in Central America belongs to Central America and no power either from the left or the right should intervene.

COSTA RICA

AIRSPACE VIOLATION BY NICARAGUA CHARGED

PA150113 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 14 May 83

[Excerpts] Costa Rican Deputy Government Minister Enrique Chacon has confirmed that four Nicaraguan airplanes flew over Pital, in San Carlos Canton. Chacon indicated that two of the airplanes were twin-engined and painted silver with blue stripes. The airplanes were seen flying toward the mouth of the Sarapiqui River.

The aircraft circled for some time, but it must be remembered that the town of Pital is located well away from the border, Chacon pointed out. [sentence as heard] He also confirmed that three aircraft with the same characteristics were seen over the towns of (La Trocha) and Los Chiles, precisely where the local airport is located. The three airplanes flew over the area for a few minutes and then disappeared in the direction of San Rafael de Guatuso.

Chacon added that he cannot certify the place of origin of the airplanes, because they had no identification, but he noted that everything seems to indicate that they were engaged in reconaissance flights over Costa Rican territory. He added that it is presumed although not confirmed, that they were Nicaraguan.

The deputy government minister said that these airplanes did not harass the citizens, limiting themselves to flying over the airport at Los Chiles. He pointed out that the flight over the landing strip could be seen as a provocation, even though it was done at a high altitude. Should these violations continue, the security council will take the necessary steps, because this cannot be allowed under any circumstances.

This alleged violation of Costa Rican airspace by Nicaraguan aircraft has been duly reported and a thorough investigation is being carried out. Based on reports, the case might lead to a statement by the National Security Council next Monday. If the case has enough merit, a protest will be presented to the Nicaraguan Government by the Costa Rican Foreign ministry. However, Acting Foreign Minister Ekhart Peters could not be located to inquire whether a Costa Rican protest will be lodged in the next few hours or whether it must wait for the National Security Council's meeting next Monday.

GOVERNMENT PLEASED WITH CONTADORA GROUP PLAN

PA131909 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1715 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] San Jose, 13 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Costa Rican Government today received with much joy the announcement of the Contadora Group's creation of a "commission of observers." The commission is to study conflicts along the border with Nicaragua and make recommendations.

The foreign ministers of Mexico, Panama, Colombia, and Venezuela held a meeting that started on Wednesday and ended this morning. The meeting took place in Panama. The ministers analyzed a Costa Rican proposal calling for observers to be sent to the border with Nicaragua. On this subject, Ekhart Peters, Costa Rican acting foreign minister has said: "We believe that the Governments of Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, and Colombia have listened and responded to the request of the Costa Rican Government."

The Costa Rican official said that no special force had been requested and that the Contadora Group's decision to send a "mission of observers," which could be accompanied by whatever advisers each government may deem appropriate fully satisfies the request.

The Costa Rican Security Council will call a special session to receive the Contadora Group mission to provide whatever information is necessary and to accompany the mission on a 320-km tour along the border.

DELEGATE NAMED TO 28-30 MAY CONTADORA TALKS

PA140003 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0028 GMT 14 May 83

[Excerpt] San Jose, 13 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Costa Rican Foreign Ministry has accepted the invitation made by the Contadora Group to attend another meeting in Panama City on 28, 29 and 30 May.

[Acting] Foreign Minister Ekhart Peters has announced that Justice Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez will head the Costa Rican delegation that will attend the meeting. Gutierrez will be appointed acting foreign minister next week and will fill this office while President Luis Alberto Monge and several ministers travel to Europe.

GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST BORDER OBSERVER MISSION

PA150050 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0141 GMT 14 May 83

[Excerpt] San Jose, 13 May (DPA) -- The government believes that the resolution that was issued in Panama today by the "Contadora Group" -- Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama -- is a triumph for Costa Rica and a guarantee of its neutrality. The resolution proposes the "dispatch of civilian observers" to Costa Rica, to guarantee its neutrality on the Nicaraguan border, to study the facts, to weigh the circumstances and to present pertinent recommendations to the "Contadora Group."

Acting Foreign Minister Ekhard Peters said at a press conference that "Costa Rica is pleased to accept the deicision," which it considers "a triumph for our country," as it will strengthen the country's neutral position and serve to guarantee its territorial integrity.

"Costa Rica," Peters said, "will provide all necessary logistical support for the four countries' observers and for those who accompany them. Costa Rica upholds its request to the OAS but will leave it at that, because, just as the Contadora Group has said, the process requested by Costa Rica is being initiated," Peters stated. He indicated that the Contadora Group's observers will determine their own "modus operandi" and actions once they arrive in the country.

Asked about Nicaragua's reaction to the Contadora Group agreements, the acting foreign minister indicated that "we will have to wait for the resolution to be fulfilled, but I think that it can only benefit both Costa Rica and Nicaragua."

Meanwhile, it was learned that "the observers will arrive in San Jose, from where they will be taken to the border region, this week. Panama will be asked to lend two helicopters for moving about in mountainous areas, which describes a large segment of the border with Nicaragua, because Costa Rica has none.

It was added that the observers will be assisted by engineers, due to the conditions in the border region, and will also have the Costa Rican Government's assessment of the "hot spots" on the Nicaragua border.

POSTPONEMENT OF OAS COUNCIL SESSION REQUESTED

PA132334 Paris AFP in Spanish 2132 GMT 13 May 83

[Excerpt] Washington, 13 May (AFP) -- Costa Rica today asked for the postponement of a session of the OAS Permanent Council it had requested a few hours before in order to discuss the sending of a fact-finding commission to its border with Nicaragua. An OAS spokesman said that the postponement is indefinite. The Costa Rican delegation did not give any explanation for its change of mind.

Costa Rica had proposed to the OAS that this fact-finding commission be made up of the Contadora Group countries -- Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama -- whose foreign ministers decided today in Panama to send a group of observers to the border between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. According to the Costa Rican request, this group's commission would have to be tasked with presenting a report and recommendations to the OAS Permanent Council.

NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR ON SUPPORT FOR OBSERVERS

PA131520 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Rogelio Ramirez Mercado, Nicaraguan ambassador to Costa Rica, said yesterday that his country is opposed to an OAS peace force on the border because it does not want a repetition of what happened to the Argentine people who were invaded by an extra-continental power. He added that the Sandinist Government agrees with the sending of civilian observers from the Contadora Group but that Costa Rica should have consulted Nicaragua first in order to achieve a bilateral agreement.

The Nicaraguan ambassador left for Managua yesterday. He was called by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry to participate in the preparatory meetings for the meeting of the Nicaraguan-Costa Rican commission that will be held in Managua on Tuesday. Regarding the arrest of two Costa Ricans, the envoy said that they will soon be presented to the press so they will make known the truth of what occurred.

Meanwhile, Nicaraguan opposition leader Alfonso Robelo arrived from Washington yesterday. He said that his trip to the United States was to publicize his country's real situation.

NICARAGUAN REGIONAL EXPERT VISITS FOR TALKS

PA140743 Paris AFP in Spanish 2247 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] San Jose, 12 May (AFP) -- The Nicaraguan Embassy today reported that Jose Leon Talavera, the Nicaraguan Government official responsible for Central American foreign relations, will meet this week with high-ranking Costa Rican Government officials to discuss matters of mutual interest.

Talavera, former secretary of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and former Nicaraguan Ambassador to Honduras, arrived in San Jose on a confidential visit and his presence here was not known until Tuesday when a newspaper mentioned the presence of a "high-ranking intelligence chief."

This report was denied today by the Nicaraguan Embassy when it gave the reasons for Talavera's visit. Talavera met here with Presidency Minister Fernando Berrocal and Deputy Presidency Minister Manuel Carballo. The subjects discussed have not been mentioned.

The embassy also denied a rumor that was picked up by the local press that "a Libyan-Nicaraguan team is in Costa Rica to murder former Commander Eden Pastora and Alfonso Robelo," both counterrevolutionary leaders.

In describing this rumor as "slanderous," the Embassy added that "with this rumor they have shown that [words indistinct] the presence of the two men in Costa Rican territory."

EL SALVADOR

POLICE ARREST 14 GUERRILLAS IN CAPITAL

PA152224 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2346 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] San Salvador, 13 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Official sources said today that the Salvadoran National Police arrested 14 guerrillas in the past few days during searches carried out in various parts of San Salvador. Those who are being detained belong to the Communist Party of El Salvador (PCES) and to the Armed Forces of Liberation (FAL). According to the police, they were trained in communications.

The military sources reported that the prisoners said that they worked for the clandestine Radio Venceremos and that they participated in various actions to sabotage the economy and the transportation system. According to official information, the insurgents were placed under the jurisdiction of a military trial judge.

In Santa Ana, 66 km west of San Salvador, seven guerrillas were presented to the press. The guerrillas had recently been captured by troops of the 2d Infantry Brigade. Military sources said that the guerrillas declared that they had participated in numerous extremist actions.

PAPER REPORTS REPAIR OF FOUR DAMAGED BRIDGES

PA152244 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 12 May 83 p 3

[Text] San Miguel, 12 May -- Four of the six bridges that were recently destroyed have been replaced as of yesterday. Work on the fifth bridge and repairs on the sixth are scheduled to be completed today. The intermunicipal transportation and international communication system with Honduras has thus been restored.

Bailey bridges have been installed at Santa Rosa de Lima, over the stream at El Camaron; in Agua Caliente, over the stream there; in Agua Salada, over the stream there; and at Pasaquina, over the San Carlos River, close to the Pan-American Highway, in La Union Department. The fifth bridge, over the Goascoran River, will be completely repaired today; however, though it was damaged, pedestrian traffic over it never stopped.

The sixth damaged bridge is located in San Miguel, at El Delirio. The bridge that was damaged by the terrorists here was the old one and not the Bailey bridge that was installed some time ago, after earlier actions against the old bridge, which is now being repaired.

U.S. CONDITION FOR AID TERMED 'UNACCEPTABLE'

PA152219 Paris AFP in Spanish 0038 GMT 14 May 83

[Text] San Salvador, 14 May (AFP) -- The U.S. House of Representatives' proposal that dialogue with the guerrillas within 90 days be made a condition for military and economic aid to El Salvador produced surprise and disbelief among government and conservative political circles here.

Presidency minister Francisco Jose Guerrero, director of the National Conciliation Party (PCN), was reluctant to comment on the issue, but declared that in his judgement the matter has been distorted and expressed hope that the situation will soon be clarified. For the moment, Guerrero limited himself to saying that he does not believe that such a condition has been proposed, but that, in any case, he is in favor of seeing the Salvadoran conflict resolved through elections.

Guerrero said that prior guarantees so that the sectors that are up in arms could participate in the elections "without obstacles and with total confidence" would be "natural."

Democratic Action (AD) leader Rene Fortin told AFP that he considers the condition unacceptable; however, he said that his parliamentary group supports the idea of initiating a dialogue with the insurgents. Fortin recalled that his party was the first to come out in favor of talks or dialogue with the guerrillas, though not for discussion of issues related to power, government, military restructuring or the country's socioeconomic reorganization.

Fortin supported the idea of discussing the insurgents' inclusion in the political process or of holding a dialogue on other issues, such as an amnesty that would be more satisfactory to the guerrillas than the one recently decreed. In his opinion, the U.S. Representatives' position that the government should make contact with the guerrilla movement is intended to produce talks such as those proposed by his party.

Nevertheless, Fortin found it "unacceptable" for the U.S. Congressmen to set dialogue as a condition for aid. "Aid should never be tied to political conditions," he added.

Ricardo Maida, president of the Central Electoral Council, told AFP that "the greatest dialogue" is the electoral process, protected "by miximal guarantees" to ensure credibility. Maida, who also condemned the U.S. House of Representatives' condition, said that these guarantees "will be effective."

Regarding the House decision, Maida was categorical; he termed it "unacceptable," adding that in the long run this situation would also be detrimental to the guerrilla movement, because the time would come when other conditions would be imposed on them.

Jose Napoleon Duarte, the Christian Democratic Party presidential candidate, reiterated his position that dialogue or negotiations on sharing power with the rebels would be "an antidemocratic solution." Duarte pointed out that his party "neither agrees to nor accepts any kind of negotiations with the guerrilla movement that are not based on the people's will."

Antonio Morales Ehrlich, also a Christian Democrat and a former junta member, said that the condition set by the U.S. House committee, "is a case of excessive interference in the country's internal affairs."

DUARTE DISCUSSES CONDITIONS FOR U.S. AID

PA150212 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 2015 GMT 12 May 83

[Interview with Jose Napoleon Duarte, presidential candidate for El Salvador's Christian Democratic Party (PDC), by an unidentified reporter; date and place not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Question] The U.S. Congress has said that the Salvadoran Government should talk with the guerrillas to be eligible for military aid. What is your opinion?

[Duarte] As far as the country's problems are concerned, there is no doubt that the country needs international support and aid in both the economic and military areas. However, it becomes a matter of honor if a country accepts such aid under conditions that could be considered denigrating.

I believe that the U.S. Congress has the right to reach the decision that it did, but we as a nation also have the right to make our own decisions. I don't think that either the government or any Salvadoran would be willing to accept impositions from any other country.

I must say therefore, that I feel that the U.S. Congress acted hastily in proposing its military aid in this manner. It should realize that military aid is necessary if we are to arrive at the path of democracy and peace. If the United States had said that it wishes the country would do what it should -- that is, work toward a peaceful social structure, a just social structure, a social structure in which there are no abuses of authority, in which there are no problems of violence -- that would have been more appropriate. However, when an attempt is made to require, as a condition, that the state of El Salvador negotiate with guerrilla agents and turn the nation over to (?communism), this is an error and the country cannot accept it, because it denies the Salvadoran people the right to choose their leaders.

I believe that the only way for a dialogue to take place, if there is sincerity on the part of the extreme leftists -- and I doubt that there is at the moment -- the only way would be to seek a path by which the leftists would agree to be incorporated into the country's democratic process. That is why we insist that the fatherland needs elections.

[Question] Engineer Duarte, it would seem that this stipulation and others that the U.S. Congress has sought to impose as a condition for continuing military aid to the Salvadoran Government demonstrate that there is clear interference in El Salvador's domestic affairs. What is your opinion of this?

[Duarte] Our problem goes much deeper than that. I would like to take a moment to urge the Salvadoran people to think about why the United States is trying to tell El Salvador how it should function. Why? [Words indistinct] an imperialist path of imposing its viewpoints on El Salvador? I believe not. This matter goes deeper than that. I believe that what is happening to the North Americans is that the El Salvador phenomenon is influencing their way of life. We are causing problems that affect the North Americans' way of life because of the correlation of world forces. This makes them nervous and concerned about the events in El Salvador and they wonder how the problem in El Salvador can be resolved so that they do not suffer the repercussions.

However, if we had a system here in our country in which there was justice, freedom, respect for human rights, completely free elections and the capability to resolve the country's political, economic and social problems, then we would not be causing problems for other countries and they would have no reason to meddle in our affairs. This is the basic point that we must understand. It is up to us Salvadorans to make it possible for our fatherland to have democracy, justice, respect for human rights and free elections. There should be no impositions, no fraud, no murder, no terrorism from either the left or the right, and no abuses of authority. When we live in a society that does not have these evil things, we will not create problems for other countries, and they will not interfere in our affairs.

Therefore, it is not just a matter of taking an aggressive attitude and going around saying that those imperialists are trying to impose on us. We have to understand what is happening and what the basic problem really is. If we followed a humane, appropriate, democratic and just way of life, no one would be concerned over El Salvador's problems -- not the Europeans or the North Americans or even the Latin Americans.

We have the Contadora Group, on one hand, a group of countries concerned about the situation in El Salvador. Mexico is making declarations, and France is making declarations. Popular groups in Europe are making resolutions and withholding economic aid to countries like El Salvador that are facing difficulties and conflict. Why? Why is the entire world concerned about El Salvador? It is not just because there are guerrillas in the country; it is because of all the issues that have existed in our country for 150 years. The last 50 years of dictatorship that we have experienced are responsible for the current situation. For this reason, we Salvadorans must try to find a formula that will truly solve our problems, so that no foreign country can come to impose its viewpoints on us and to invade our land and interfere with our way of thinking and our country's solutions.

[Question] Engineer Duarte, in the event that the Salvadoran Government were to agree to talk with the guerrillas about a distribution of power, what would be the PDC position?

[Duarte] Well, what you are suggesting is a totally undemocratic solution. You are presenting a hypothetical situation in which a government, whichever it may be, sits down to bargain over power with the extreme leftists and to share power with the extreme left. This is simply and clearly an undemocratic, personal position, because it would not have the people's support. Now, if its results were that the people would give the leftists the opportunity to participate in government, in the assembly through their deputies or even as presidents of the republic, if they win these positions with the people's favor, that would be something else again. However, I would never accept any kind of negotiations in which the objective is to distribute power if they were not based on the people's will.

I don't believe that the PDC would be willing to accept a proposal in which there were a distribution of power, and not just involving the leftists, but the rightists as well. That is why we say that the right path is the path of the people's will. The right path is to have the people decide their own destiny and declare who they want in their government and who they do not want. That is the logical path. That is what we propose and what we consider to be a sensible solution to the country's problem.

GUATEMALA

STONE'S APPOINTMENT DRAWS GOVERNMENT COMMENT

PA131513 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 12 May 83

[Questioners in recording not identified]

[Excerpts] More contradictions are showing up within the Guatemalan Government. This time it is State Council President Jorge Serrano Elias and General Hector Mario Lopez Fuentes, Army Supreme Staff chief, who have expressed different opinions regarding the appointment of a U.S. special envoy for Central America. Last month, Gen Lopez Fuentes criticized the U.S. Government decision to appoint an ambassador without portfolio, because he considered it an insult to our countries' dignity.

In contrast is the opinion of Serrano Elias praising Stone's appointment. Stone, a Florida State lawyer, was hired in 1981 by the government of former President Fernando Romeo Lucas to try to improve Guatemala's poor human rights record.

It was said that Gen Lopez Fuentes criticism was not against Stone, the man President Reagan chose as mediator for Central America. It was just a matter of principle that by appointing a special envoy for the region, the U.S. President was hurting the sovereignty of the countries of the region.

Gen Lopez Fuentes was interviewed today in Solola after the inauguration of a new military base. He did not say anything about Stone's appointment; instead, he referred to the recent subversive outbreaks in the northern and southern part of the country, where the armed clashes in the past 3 days left 20 dead: 8 members of the Army, 6 civilian patrolmen, and 6 guerrillas.

Here are some remarks by Gen Lopez Fuentes: [Begin recording] [Question] There was an ambush a few days ago at Km 99. Is this a danger zone or was it a random action?

[Lopez Fuentes] Subversion is not completely over, as proved by that ambush. It was a well planned action against a military convoy; the Army suffered dead and wounded. We have learned that there is an information leak concerning our movements, because they were waiting for a military convoy. This proves that some of these groups are still active. I do not know how many.

[Question] How many guerrillas do you think there are in the country?

[Lopez Fuentes] Perhaps 500 at the most.

[Question] Are their arms supply sources under control?

[Lopez Fuentes] The security forces are doing everything to make it as difficult as possible. [end recording]

Gen Lopez Fuentes praised the results of what is being called the amnesty of reconciliation, although he doubts it will be extended again: [Begin recording] [Lopez Fuentes] I remember that some 2,250 surrendered last July and accepted the amnesty. If such numbers continue, the amnesty is going to be effective. I think that up to now 1,000 have surrendered. If such numbers continue, then the amnesty is effective, and we still have until 29 May.

[Question] Do you think the amnesty will be extended?

[Lopez Fuentes] I do not think so. It is in its second month. The president of the republic already extended it once. Nevertheless, if there were exceptional conditions or a manifest desire to surrender by some groups, then it would be worthwhile. Otherwise, I feel that under normal circumstances, there would be no more need for amnesty.

[Question] Has any important leader surrendered?

[Lopez Fuentes] I do not know of anyone. I think that the majority of those who have accepted the amnesty are members of the bases, mostly those bases the guerrillas were holding as a front to give the impression they had plenty of support and controlled the community, especially in remote areas. [end recording]

FOREIGN MINISTER CRITICIZES U.S. AID TO BELIZE

PA152231 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1726 GMT 15 May 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 15 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Guatemalan Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola expressed his "amazement at the triumph" of Belizean Prime Minister George Price in acquiring U.S. economic aid. Castillo Arriola criticized the decision by Ronald Reagan's government to grant economic aid to Belize. Guatemala has been claiming Belize from the UK for a century and does not recognize Belize's independence from the UK.

Castillo Arriola recalled that when the United Nations granted independence to Belize in 1981, Guatemala cast the only negative vote. "For political reasons," he said, "the United Nations agreed to let the Security Council approve Belize's independence, even though Guatemala demonstrated that this was not an appropriate action, in that the conhad been brought to the same organization."

The foreign minister noted that "the United States approved Belize's independence at the time, so its new position is no surprise, being simply a consequence of that vote."

Castillo Arriola said, "But yes, I, as foreign minister, and the Guatemalan Government are a little amazed at the U.S. 'surrender' of its attitude in support of an end to the controversy."

The United States offered to mediate in this controversy, but Guatemala has already changed its claim. Instead of claiming the whole territory, Guatemala is now asking only for the district of Toledo, which would ensure its access to the Atlantic Ocean. For this reason, the foreign minister noted that "the controversy is with Great Britain, not with Belize, and we will negotiate directly with them."

BUSINESSMEN REPORT DISAPPOINTMENT WITH AID

PA150200 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 13 May 83

[Excerpt] Some 750 businessmen from almost the entire country attended a welcoming luncheon yesterday for Frank (Otelo), the new AID director in Guatemala. The meeting was reportedly held to discuss new AID policies for our country that would place considerable importance on the private sector's role in promoting the country's development.

However, after the luncheon, many of the participants expressed frustration and discouragement, having noted that AID will continue as it has in the past; that is, its actions will continue to be colorless, odorless and insipid.

This afternoon, "Here's the World" newscast interviewed Raymond (Molina), economic adviser to the Republican Party's Hispanic Assembly, who said that, in accordance with the U.S. President's guidelines, AID will promote support for national private sectors at the international level as a formula for economic and political progress. (Molina), who attended the luncheon as a special guest, said that the AID director in Washington had excused himself from the meeting, but sent a cable pointing out the U.S. development agency's new guidelines.

INCLUSION OF UN HEAD IN CONTADORA GROUP OPPOSED

PA150017 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 14 May 83

[Text] Guatemalan Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola has reported that the UN Security Council met yesterday to discuss Nicaragua's request that the UN secretary general be included in the Contadora Group. The foreign minister said that Guatemala's position remains the same: This is a Central American problem and its solution is obviously up to the Central American countries.

Foreign Minister Castillo Arriola said that Mario Quinonez, Guatemalan ambassador to the United Nations, outlined Guatemala's viewpoints to the Security Council yesterday. The Contadora countries' efforts have been accepted, he said. Those efforts have yet to be completed, so it would be unjustified to include the secretary general, thus turning this into an official Security Council action, Castillo Arriola said.

Foreign Minister Castillo Arriola said that there is no indication that attempts are being made to include Cuba in the Contadora Group. Nicaragua's request, he added, is that the UN secretary general be included, but this is inappropriate because the procedures currently being used have already been accepted internationally. The Security Council, the OAS Permanent Council and the five Central American foreign ministers have all agreed to them.

STATE COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO U.S. NOTED

PA142256 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 12 May 83 p 8

[Text] State Council President Jorge Serrano Elias is on a special mission, representing Guatemalan President Rios Montt before the U.S. President and congressmen, according to State Council Vice President Dr Ricardo Asturias Valenzuela.

Asturias Valenzuela said at a news conference yesterday that "Serrano Elias is personally representing the president of the republic at meetings with President Ronald Reagan and several congressmen."

He added: "Serrano has met with President Reagan, Vice President Bush and State Department officials. He has also held some 20 meetings with U.S. congressmen, the purpose of which is to improve U.S.-Guatemalan relations." Asturias noted: "I understand that Serrano has been successful in this effort, though I don't have details.

When Serrano returns this weekend, he will report fully on the results of his trip. Certainly he has worked hard, and work of this nature is not easy. The interviews he secured were difficult to obtain. "Serrano has not been vacationing but working on a specific mission," Asturias added, in reference to criticism of the State Council president's trip.

HONDURAS

OVER 1,000 NICARAGUAN REFUGEES CROSS BORDER

PA131709 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0211 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 May (LATIN-REUTER) -- Over 1,000 Nicaraguan refugees entered Honduras early this week as result of heavy fighting in northern Nicaragua, according to sources close to the National Refugees Commission [Comision Nacional de Refugiados -- CNR]

The flow of Nicaraguans who crossed the northern border between Monday and Wednesday raised the number of Nicaraguan refugees here to 15,000, the sources revealed. Some 150 refugees are militiamen and their relatives, living near the location where, according to Nicaragua, 1,200 rebels fought government troops last week in the Nueva Segovia Department.

Some 750 others are Miskitos who have complained of mistreatment by the Sandinist authorities in the mountainous Nicaragua Department of Zelaya, on the Caribbean side. The rest of the refugees crossed at different points along the 700-km border.

Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua have over 43,000 refugees from the neighboring countries, according to the same sources.

MANAGUA GOVERNMENT RELEASES CAPTURED FISHERMEN

PA132116 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] The Foreign Ministry today presented the 17 Honduran fishermen released by the Nicaraguan Government. The Honduran fishermen, captured while fishing in national waters, according to their own statements, revealed that they had been subjected to hard labor and given harsh treatment by their captors. The following is a relayed report from our correspondent Jose Maria Caliz:

[Begin Relay] After being held in different Nicaraguan prisons for a month, 17 Honduran fishermen arrived in Tegucigalpa today. They had been engaged in fishing activities in two boats [words indistinct] when they were captured by a Nicaraguan coast guard boat on 12 and 13 April while navigating in national waters, some 7 miles from the dividing line between the two countries.

Francisco Huete Llama, captain of one of the vessels, said the capture took place near (Cabo Godolfi), from where they were taken to Puerto Cabezas.

The captain of the other boat, [name indistinct], confirmed that at the time his vessel was captured, all the fishermen were in the water diving for shrimp, some 50 miles from the mainland, and that he didn't know how many had survived.

The fishermen who returned to Honduras today are natives of Cauquira, Gracias a Dios, and Guanaja, an island on the bay. [end relay]

TREASURY POLICE REPORT ATTACK BY SANDINISTS

PA150254 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 May 83

[By correspondent Guillermo Arias Rodriguez]

[Excerpt] Sandinist Army forces entered Honduran territory and ambushed a Treasury Police patrol. During the ensuing 15-minute clash, a police sergeant received a serious leg injury. The Sandinist intruders immediately fled back to Nicaragua.

Once again we must report continuing violations of our national territory by members of the Sandinist People's Army in the border sector of El Triunfo municipality, Choluteca Department.

On this occasion, at 1000 on Thursday, 12 May, a Treasury Police patrol was touring the area of La Canoa when it was ambushed by Nicaraguan Army units. The confrontation, which lasted some 15 minutes, resulted in serious injury to Sergeant Natividad Medina Varela of the Honduran Treasury Police, whose leg was badly hurt. The sergeant was rushed to Choluteca and from there to Tegucigalpa for surgery. The Sandinist forces immediately returned to their own territory.

According to our sources, La Canoa is 12 km from the border, which clearly demonstrates that the Nicaraguan Army is intentionally provoking us and violating our territory's integrity.

The Honduran authorities will probably order an investigation of this new incident at the scene, so that a detailed report can be prepared for the government and military authorities and an official protest note submitted to the international organizations.

ISRAEL WILLING TO SELL WEAPONS IF REQUESTED

PA121717 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1606 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Moshe Dayan, the Israeli ambassador to Central America, announced today that his country is willing to sell Honduras whatever weapons it may request and need in case of an emergency.

The diplomat, whose headquarters is in Guatemala, is currently in Tegucigalpa to work on the details of the bilateral bartering transactions and to expand such relations.

"Military aid is not the fundamental aspect between my country and Honduras," the ambassador explained, "but should Honduras suffer an emergency, the weapons necessary for its defense will be provided."

Israel buys coffee in Honduras, which it resells to the highest bidder. It in turn provides technical aid in various fields. The ambassador added that Israel is not the only country that sells weapons in Central America, because Libya and other countries also do so.

Dayan praised the Honduran political system and noted that it was very similar to that of his country, particularly because of its democratic nature and the support it has among the people.

NICARAGUA

JOINT COMMISSION TO DISCUSS BORDER OBSERVERS

PA160428 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 May 83

[Text] A joint Nicaraguan and Costa Rican commission will meet in Managua on Tuesday to discuss very important bilateral issues connected with the Contadora Group's resolution, issued this week, to send a group of observers to evaluate the situation on the two countries' border. In addition to discussing problems of security, navigation rights and other aspects of the border situation, the joint commission will coordinate the reception of and lodgings and transportation for the group of observers from Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela, along with all related concerns.

Meanwhile, former Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus praised the efforts of the Contadora Group, which, at the end of its meeting in Panama this week, urged the Central American leaders to contribute to the peace effort and to commit their political will to the search for dialogue and understanding, so that they can resolve their present differences.

PROTEST NOTE TO HONDURAS ON 12 MAY ATTACKS

PA140535 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0430 GMT 14 May 83

[Diplomatic Note from Nicaraguan Acting Foreign Minister Nora Astorga to the Government of Honduras, dated 13 May 1983 -- read by announcer]

[Text] Mr Secretary: I am addressing Your Excellency to inform you of the latest acts of aggression carried out against our country by the Somozist forces established in Honduras. These acts took place yesterday, 12 May of this year.

1. At 0800, the El Paraiso observation post, located 2 km southwest of San Pedro de Potrero Grande, in Chinandega Department, was harassed with rifle fire for 10 minutes. No casualties have been reported.

2. At 1028 the El Cortesal observation post 150 meters southwest of San Pedro de Potrero Grande, in Chinandega Department, was attacked with rifle fire from Honduras.

3. At 1030, the Las Marias observation post located 2 and 1/2 km southeast of San Pedro de Potrero Grande, in the same department, was shelled with 81-mm mortar fire from Honduran territory. Fortunately, no casualties were reported.

His Excellency Arnulfo Pineda Lopez, acting foreign secretary, Tegucigalpa, Honduras. [as heard]

4. At 1600, attacks from Honduran territory were also launched at La Ceiba observation post, located 5 km west of Somotillo, and 200 meters from the border in Chinandega Department. The harassment was carried out with rifles of various calibers and lasted approximately 10 minutes.

5. Subsequently, at 1630, La Ceiba observation post was again attacked. So far, it is not known whether there were any casualties.

6. On the same day, 12 May, a group of 20 Somozist mercenaries coming from Honduran territory in the sector of Dipilto Viejo, in Nueva Segovia Department, kidnapped the peasant Felipe Agesta and took him to Honduran territory. His fate is unknown.

Once again, Mr Secretary, we are obliged to insist on the urgent need for the enlightened Honduran Government, assuming its internationalist obligations, to put an end to the interminable cases of aggression that are being carried out against our territory and people by Somozist counterrevolutionary units and members of the Honduran Army.

The position taken by your government of irresponsibly denying that your territory is being used and that your armed forces are participating actively in the attacks on Nicaragua only contributes to increased tension between our countries and in the area, and seriously endangers the precarious peace that exists in the region.

In presenting my government's formal and emphatic protest over the stated attacks, I confirm Nicaragua's commitment to peace and its invitations to bilateral dialogue through which we can advance on the path to understanding. I take this opportunity to reiterate to your excellency my consideration and esteem. [Signed] Nora Astorga, acting foreign minister.

DANIEL ORTEGA OPPOSES PEACE FORCE ON BORDER

PA142144 Paris AFP in Spanish 1945 GMT 14 May 83

[Text] San Jose, 14 May (AFP) -- Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of Reconstruction of Nicaragua, has charged that the United States "will seek, in one way or another, to implicate Costa Rica in the establishment of a southern war front," similar to that existing in the north on the Honduran border, for use in its fight against Nicaragua.

In an interview with the local weekly UNIVERSIDAD, Ortega charged that the "United States is trying to take advantage of any move at the OAS so that it can interfere with its military forces" and "besiege the revolution," not only in Costa Rica but in Honduras as well.

Ortega made these remarks when asked about Costa Rica's request at the OAS that the Contadora Group create a peace-keeping force that can guarantee Costa Rica's neutrality on its northern border with Nicaragua.

According to Ortega, the formation of a multinational force would open the doors to "U.S. participation," but he admitted that "we don't believe that the Costa Rican Government had this intention or purpose in mind when it called for the meeting."

"We don't feel that the pretense of peace-keeping forces is advisable, because no peace-keeping force is composed of civilian observers," Ortega said, adding that in presenting this request to the OAS "it is not enough that Costa Rica expressed its desire that the force be drawn from the Contadora Group countries, because the decision, after all, will be made by the OAS as a whole."

Ortega told the weekly that the OAS normally applies the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty to this kind of situation, which, according to him, would complicate the problem by further internationalizing the conflict. In commenting on U.S. President Ronald Reagan's statement admitting that his administration is intervening in Nicaragua and hopes to overthrow its government, he noted that "we are facing a very grave attitude."

"We must realize that this remark comes from the foremost official of a military and economic power that has official relations with Nicaragua, and that this official calmly expressed his support for those who are trying to overthrow the revolutionary government," Ortega remarked. He added that Reagan's statement demonstrates that "we have not lied and that we have never exaggerated in saying that President Reagan's government is primarily to blame for the destabilization and aggression being suffered by the Nicaraguan people."

He noted that this situation "is naturally forcing us to redouble our efforts in the political, military and international defense of our revolution." He commented that in facing these attacks, Nicaragua has the support of the Nonaligned Movement, as well as the solidarity of the Western European and Latin American nations.

On the subject of the military situation, he said that from January until the present time the war has resulted in more than 500 Sandinists killed and more than $50 million in losses, a figure that could double, as all losses have not been estimated. "We are currently facing a new escalation in the offensive in which the enemy will try to increase its actions from the Honduran sector, where the first waves of invasions began in January," he commented.

He added that the strongest incursion took place in Neuva Segovia Department on 30 April, "but we defeated it, killing more than 90 of the enemy." He added that on 6 May "we began to struggle against a new invasion from Honduras," a country that "is becoming increasingly involved in these military actions, supporting the Somozist forces with transportation along the border." He charged that the Honduran forces "are giving logistical support to the enemy and even tried to open a corridor for use in bringing weapons, new troops and food for the Somozists into Nicaragua and for removing their dead and wounded." He stated that the Honduran forces "have even fired artillery from their country, in support of the counterrevolutionaries' actions."

PLOT AGAINST ANTI-SANDINIST LEADERS DENIED

PA130450 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan Embassy in Costa Rica has denied newspaper reports regarding the presence of a Libyan-Nicaraguan team in Costa Rican territory. The information received from the press office at the Nicaraguan Embassy in Costa Rica reads as follows:

The Nicaraguan Embassy in Costa Rica categorically denies the statements made by some information media that a Libyan-Nicaraguan team is in Costa Rica with the intension of carrying out actions against Pastora and Robelo. We also wish to point out that this slanderous attempt to involve the embassy in criminal actions not only highlights the fact that there are commandos in Costa Rica but also acknowledges the presence of the two counterrevolutionaries in Nicaraguan territory. [Sentence as heard]

In providing this report, the Nicaraguan Embassy reiterates its appreciation and consideration.

COMMANDER REPORTS ON REBELS KILLED, CAPTURED

PA131540 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Guerrilla Commander Javier Carrion, military chief of the 6th region, and deputy commander Javier Lopez, interior ministry representative, announced yesterday the expulsion of so-called task forces composed of 400 mercenary Somozist guards.

They also announced the deaths of 10 counterrevolutionary military unit chiefs and the capture of 12 genocidal elements. During a news conference at the Silvio Mayorga buidling in Managua, it was announced that the high command of the Somozist guards in Honduras, which is financed by the U.S. Government, had plans to coordinate actions between Jinotega and Matagalpa to establish an internal front that was to act simultaneously with elements in Jalapa and on the Atlantic coast. It has been reported that as a result of clashes between the Somozist task forces and the Sandinist troops, 243 genocidal elements died, 61 were wounded, and 12 others were captured. These clashes took place from March through the beginning of this month.

An arms cache seized from the beasts was exhibited at the news conference. The cache includes 41 FAL rifles, 45 FAL [as heard] rifles, 3 M-60 machineguns, 55 M-60 grenades, 49,000 bullets, and a field hospital. A Somozist beast involved in the killing of German Dr Albrecht Pflaum and 12 Nicaraguans was also presented.

Only the United States owns the type of field hospital seized from the counterrevolutionaries. The sophisticated hospital was discovered in La Flor, Jinotega, in the same place where the body of Felix Guillen Brennen, an Argentine military man, was found.

It was also reported that in addition to the arms abandoned by the Somozist beasts, the authorities found gas bombs, 11 RPG rockets and 15 mules for transporting materiel. According to the report, the enemy vented its fury on the peasants who live in the country's northern mountains. They attacked Rancho Grande, Santa Elena, and La Colonia with mortar fire.

The Somozist guards were ordered not to clash with the Sandinist troops and to attack only the civilian population. The task forces led by Somozist guards Tono and Renato suffered 10 dead among their military unit chiefs. The dead chiefs are El Toro; El Cuervo; Walter Tigre, (Poliz Ley); Ivan or Gerardo Polanco; Joseito or Chucho Pineda; Paolama, Ricardo Lanza; Enrique, Venado; and El Panillo. Members of the task forces captured by the Sandinist troops were presented. They are Miguel Angel Jimenez Bautista, Juan Pastor Gonzalez, and Eduardo Lopez Valenzuela. Lopez Valenzuela participated in the murder of the German doctor and 12 Nicaraguans.

Defense Ministry Communique on Clashes

PA141801 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 May 83

[Nicaraguan Defense Ministry communique, issued 'Tonight,' dated Managua, 13 May 1983 -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry reports: 1. Today, two Somozist task forces comprised of 500 counterrevolutionaries coming from Honduras, clashed with troops of the Sandinist People's Army, EPS, in the place known as Llanos Bawisa, Zelaya Norte Department, where the EPS stopped their advance into our territory.

2. During the period of 6-11 May, EPS troops had several clashes against groups of Somozist counterrevolutionaries in the area of Rio Indio, Rio San Juan Department. Here are the results: 25 counterrevolutionaries dead and 12 Chinese-made AK rifles, 1 FAL rifle, 80 ammunition clips for AK rifle, 7 olive-green backpacks, and 12,000 Costa Rican colones recovered. [Issued] Managua, 13 May 1983. Foreign and Public Relations Office, Defense Ministry.

CASTRO GREETS AFRICAN CONGRESS DELEGATION

PA141737 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 May 83

[Text] Fidel Castro, Cuban chief of state, met in Havana with the National African Congress Delegation headed by Congress President Oliver Tambo. During that meeting, which occurred in an atmosphere of friendship and fraternity, they exchanged points of view regarding the international political situation, especially in the areas of Southern Africa, as well as the strengthening of relations between the National African Congress and the Communist Party of Cuba.

During a press conference yesterday in the Cuban capital, Oliver Tambo accused the U.S. Government of having a policy supporting fascist regimes in Central America, a policy similar to the policy it pursues in Southern Africa as the main associate of the Pretorian rascists.

Tambo stressed that in Africa, U.S. imperialism attacks Angola and other Front Line countries, as well as the revolutionary organizations of Namibia and Southern Africa, while in Central America, the aggression is currently directed against Nicaragua and the patriots fighting in El Salvador and Guatemala. The National African Congress leader condemned the attempts of the United States and some of its allies to link Namibian independence to the presence of Cuban internationalist soldiers in Angola. Tambo added that the Namibians and Southern Africans will continue their struggle until final victory.

FURTHER ON U.S. PLANE HIJACKED TO HAVANA

FL131442 Bridgetown CANA in English 1329 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Miami, May 13, CANA-REUTER -- A Capitol Air jetliner on a flight from Puerto Rico to Miami was hijacked to Cuba last night with 238 passengers and crew aboard, an airlines spokesman said. The DC-8, hijacked shortly after 8:30 p.m. EDT (0030 GMT Friday), about 30 minutes after leaving San Juan, landed at Havana, he said. The hijacker was identified as a "black female who held a 12-gauge flare pistol to the chief stewardess' head," said capitol spokesman Courtney Knox.

Knox said he had been in radio contact with the co-pilot the DC-8, Capitol's Flight 236, as it sat on the runway in Havana. He said there were no injuries and that the flight was expected to continue to Miami as soon as clearance was received from Cuban officials. On May 1, the same capitol flight was hijacked shortly after takeoff from San Juan, and its male hijacker was arrested by Cuban authorities. That flight, carrying 214 passengers and crew, was delayed in Miami for eight hours because of problems with a door and two emergency exists. None of its passengers and crew was injured.

COMMENTARY ATTACKS U.S. CENTRAL AMERICAN POLICY

FL131530 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 13 May 83

[FAR and Interior Ministry Combatants political information program commentary]

[Text] In its desire for world domination and its visceral anticommunism, the U.S. Government headed by Ronald Reagan has drawn up a strategy for the Central American and Caribbean region which is doomed to utter failure, not only because it lacks foundations, but because it is ridiculous.

This strategy is based on the open support of the bloody and despotic regimes of the area and its only aim is that of strangling the progress of the revolutionary movement and putting an end to the Sandinist revolution.

At a cost of hundreds of millions of dollars, the Yankee administration has started a massive military escalation by training and financing the repressive troops of El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala and the remainders of Anastasio Somoza's old regime. Democratic Senator Christopher Dodd said in reply to Reagan's bellicose and arrogant speech of last 27 April, that this is the formula for failure and that it is a proven way of chosing a loser.

Anyone who analyzes the events in El Salvador will promptly become aware that Alvaro Magana's genocidal and dependent regime would have fallen a long time ago but for the U.S. support. Through its injections of dollars and arms, the United States is artificially keeping alive a dictatorship which was long ago condemned by the boundlessly heroic Salvadoran people.

Only a few days ago, the Yankee President was cynical enough to present the Somozist bandits attacking Nicaragua as freedom fighters. Not only did he give this pompous name to that CIA-financed group, but he also stated that it was necessary to give them open support. This most illustrious son of U.S. society termed as irresponsible the sectors of Congress which are opposing his intervention plans and he arrogated to himself the right to encourage and finance the destabilization of the Nicaraguan Government, arguing that it did not come to power as the result of an electoral process. This weak argument to justify the undeclared war of his administration against the Sandinist revolution, which was victorious at the price of thousands of lives and enormous material destruction, does not stand up to the most elemental analysis. While wielding this argument, the all-powerful and arrogant gentleman of the North tries to ignore a fact that all the world knows about: that Washington maintains excellent relations with and provides financial and military aid to such regimes as those of Chile, Haiti, El Salvador, and Guatemala, true butchers of their respective peoples and constant violators of the most basic human rights.

Obviously, the Yankee administration suffers from a basic confusion regarding the causes of the conflicts in Central America and, as Senator Dodd said, is basing its policy in the region on a total lack of knowledge. Only the road of revolution has remained open to the Central American nations in order to put an end to the poverty and starvation that weighs them down and to get rid of the dictatorships which oppress and murder them. The will to resist and make a failure out of the Yankee intention of definitively conquering them is there and is steadily growing. The enterprise undertaken by the imperialists is no remedy for all ills and the result may be, as has often been warned, that Central America is converted into one large Vietnam, which would enjoy the solidarity of all the peoples of the continent and the world. Any sensible analyst understands that the United States will again be among the losers, if Yankee imperialism continues with its preposterous and arrogant policy in this region. The course taken by Washington is entirely wrong and can only lead to the most outright failure.

CTC DENIES LABOR ACTIVISTS SENTENCED TO DEATH

PA150331 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0246 GMT 15 May 83

[Text] Havana, 14 May (EFE) -- The Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC] denied again today in this capital that five people have been condemned to death for attempting to organize an independent union.

An Extensive CTC declaration indicates that 33 people have been given more or less severe sentences for "staging numerous and continuous acts of sabotage and preparing attacks on the country's leaders." The CTC insists that "the people involved in these deeds never sought to defend labor rights, let alone organize a labor union."

The declaration, which was sent to WFTU Secretary General Ibrahim Zakaria, states that "Cuba's enemies have unleashed a reactionary campaign designed to discredit the Cuban revolution through the alleged defense of human rights." Immediately afterward, it states that "there could not be a more despicable charge or a more verifiable falsehood."

The declaration states that "labor rights in our country, the right to affiliate with and organize labor unions, as well as the right to defend the economic interests of workers through labor organizations, are absolutely guaranteed by Cuba's socialist constitution and its complementary laws."

The denial states that "it is ridiculous to suppose that there is any group in Cuba that proposes to create a labor organization, even a local one," and adds that "the workers themselves would make this impossible." The statement maintains that in Cuba there is "not the slightest case of [violation of] human rights, much less a case of violation of labor rights" and adds that "there is a group of people that, inspired by the Cuban counterrevoluton based in the United States and with the support of the CIA and the encouragement of the Reagan government, is seeking to interrupt the peaceful construction of socialism."

As for the five convicts, the statement says that "they were not recognized labor activists and were involved in illicit sales and black market practices, while the fifth is a small farmer. Each of them has a record of counterrevolutionary activity, consisting of proven acts of sabotage."

In addition, the declaration states that "the Cuban working class not only rejects the criminal intentions of our enemies and their instruments, but also supports, in this and in any similar case, the resolute and vigorous action taken by our judicial authorities and the national secuirty organs. [quotation marks as received]

Some 10 days ago, Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez denied for the first time that there have been attempts to create a free labor union and confirmed to a group of French newsmen that five people had been condemned for "proven acts of sabotage to which they confessed in court."

U.S. 'Propaganda' on Workers' Arrest Scored

PA151800 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 May 83

[Text] Roberto Veiga, secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, has sent a letter to the World Federation of Trade Unions saying that Washington's propaganda campaign on the jailing in our country of a group of alleged workers who were trying to set up an independent union is merely a fabrication.

After noting that labor rights in Cuba are properly protected by the country's Constitution, Veiga stated that more than 3 million people participated in the 1 May International Labor Day event, which is the most recent expression of how the Cubans feel.

The campaign was prepared in Washington and implemented through organizations of Cuban-born counterrevolutionaries, who also have the mission of murdering Cuban officials and exiles who do not accept their terrorist line.

Veiga noted that the recent sentences imposed on 33 persons involved in acts of vandalism, sabotage, and attacks on the country's economy, were used as the basis for the campaign.

The letter added: The names of Ezequiel Diaz -- head of the group -- Angel Donato Martinez, Carlos Garcia, and Jose Luis Romero have been used, specifically. These persons had no legally acknowledged labor activity sicne they dedicated themselves to illegal gambling and the black market. The list includes Benito Garcia who is a small farmer.

The Cuban working class, the letter concluded, rejects the actions of such persons and is in full agreement with the application of penal measures included in the national legislation duscussed and approved by all the people.

FOREIGN RESIDENTS TESTIFY ON HUMAN RIGHTS

FL131835 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] A statement on human rights in Cuba was released during a press conference by a group of representatives of foreign residents from the five continents. (Cristian Gonzalez), representative of the Chilean resistance movement, read the statement and said that it is strange that the same imperialist circles, which are directly responsibile for setting up and maintaining dictatorial and fascist regimes in many countries, should express concern at human rights in a country which they have ceaselessly been attacking for the last 24 years.

After stressing that work is a real right and not a dead letter in Cuba and emphasizing the progress in the fields of health, education, culture, and the democratic participation of the people in the government of the country, (Cristian Gonzales) said:

[Begin (Gonzalez) recording] Full equality without distinction as to sex, race, or religious creed has led to the absence in Cuba of the discriminatory practices which are so common in some countries. The moral climate of work, sound recreation and absence of fear, the simple fact that one can move in tranquillity in any place at any time, are things that are found in few cities in the world. [end recording]

The statement adds that it is necessary to tell the truth about Cuba now, at a time when incredible lies are spread to deceive world public opinion. The document concludes by stating that the foreign residents in our country, being witnesses of the facts, support the commitment of all the Cuban people to overcome underdevelopment and build a just and peaceful society.

NEW COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES INAUGURATED

New Studios in Santa Clara

FL141302 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Flavio Bravo Pardo, member of the party Central Committee and president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, cut the ribbon which officially inaugurated five modern stuidos belonging to radio stations CMHW and CMHA in Santa Clara.

The activity took place as part of our top government body's control and assistance program to Villa Clara Province. One of the studios in equipped with high technology equipment for recording stereo with a 10-channel console of Hungarian manufacture.

Repeater Station in Camaguey

PA132145 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Pedro Guelmes, minister of communications of Cuba, has inaugurated a postal and telegraph center and a broadcasting repeater station in Florida, Camaguey Province, as part of the development of this area in the Year of World Communications proclaimed by the United Nations.

Guelmes presides over the national committee that in this Year of Communications has the mission of carrying out important tasks to improve the national and international exchange of information. Cuba is the first underdeveloped country that designs and produces telecommunications equipment in cooperation with the United Nations.